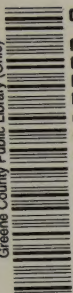


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HISTORY
OF
HURON COUNTY
OHIO

ITS PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT

By A. J. BAUGHMAN

With Biographical Sketches of Prominent Citizens
of the County

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME I

CHICAGO
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.

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PREFACE

It has been well and truthfully said that fortunately the present occupants of the Firelands are not like those of some other countries, compelled to plunge into the chaos of antiquity for the origin of their settlements or to trace the founders of their prosperity to the caverns of the barbarian or to the sucklings of a wolf. The inhabitants of the pioneer period of the Firelands were for the most part, a noble-minded, generous people, bold and brave in the defense of right and upright in their dealings.

Like their ancestors of Plymouth Rock, the Firelanders when they arrived on the Western Reserve felt that they had reached the theater upon which duty, as well as interest, commanded them to devote their labors and their lives.

Having entered the threshold of the second century in the history of Huron county, a retrospective glance at the progress made during those hundred years reveals achievements of which the first settlers of the Firelands never dreamed. Being blessed with natural resources, with a healthful climate and a fertile soil, these with the industry and activity of an enterprising people made the success that has since been achieved.

The hand of improvement has certainly here been employed, and in that hundred years, which is only a short time, as nations reckon time, all these advancements have taken place. The land once covered by the forest is now cultivated fields. District schools have sprung up on all sides and churches are to be seen in all parts of the country.

Markets for the purchase of all kinds of products have been opened upon every hand, whereas then they had none. The manners of the people and the fashions of dress have undergone a revolution. Corn-huskings, flax-pullings and the old festive games have been put aside for the supposed more accomplished amusements of modern times. The still-houses have vanished. And those who first broke the silence that reigned here in the wilderness in 1811 have disappeared—some to make new settlements farther west, and others have gone the way of all things earthly. Some were cut off in the midst of their toil and were buried amid the scenes of their labors. Some lived to see what was once a wilderness changed to a land smiling with peace and plenty, peopled with intelligent beings and went down to the tomb full of years.

The author acknowledges himself indebted to the members of the Advisory Board for their encouragement and assistance, and to the press for its friendly notices. Also, to other friends for their assistance in the gathering and in the compilation of the matter contained in this work. To the Firelands publications and to Williams' History of Huron County we are indebted for information which doubtless might have been unattainable otherwise.

And my thanks are especially due to the Hon. C. H. Gallup, president of the Firelands Historical Society, for courtesies and valuable information.

Many biographical sketches are given in this work, for biography is the meat and marrow of history. The aim has been to discriminate carefully in the selection of subjects, although names worthy of perpetuation have in a number of instances been omitted, either on the account of the apathy of those concerned or the inability of the compilers to secure the necessary information for the same.

November, 1909.

A. J. BAUGHMAN,
Mansfield, Ohio.

HISTORY OF HURON COUNTY

HISTORY OF THE FIRELANDS.

The history of the Firelands and of Huron county are, to a great extent the same. The Firelands embrace the whole of Erie and Huron counties, exclusive of Kelley's island, and include the township of Ruggles, now a part of Ashland county and the township of Danbury, now included in the county of Ottawa. The history of this region, as well as of the entire continent prior to the period of modern discovery, is a matter of conjecture and will not be considered here.

What was the "Great West," but what has long since lost that appellation, was a vast track lying south of the great lakes and between the Allegheny mountains and the Mississippi river, and was for a long time a disputed territory, claimed alike by the French and English governments. The English based their title on the discoveries by the Cabots in 1497 and 1498, and therefore claimed to own the Atlantic coast from New Foundland to Florida, and between those points westward across the continent from ocean to ocean. The French, however, disputed the English title and asserted in their own behalf the ownership of what are now the British possession on the Atlantic coast as far north as Labrador and their claim extended inland so as to embrace the entire valley of the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi rivers, thus encircling the English territory from the Atlantic westward and south to the Gulf of Mexico.

The rival claims of France and England to this vast territory were long the source of dissension between those nations until the treaty of Paris in 1763, by which France ceded to England all her claims to the Canadas and the adjacent provinces. Up to this time the French had, as against the English, held exclusive possession of the entire valleys of the St. Lawrence and Mississippi, and the English government had, notwithstanding the contested character of its title, proceeded as though its ownership was unquestioned, and the King of England had by various patents, granted from time to time to divers persons and companies tracts of land of great extent.

In 1606, James I., to encourage settlement granted the territory, twelve degrees in extent from Cape Fear to Halifax, all then called Virginia to two

associations, known as the Plymouth Company and the London Company. The northern portion, then called North Virginia, was assigned to the Plymouth Company, but the name was soon changed to New England.

In 1628, that portion of the territory covered by the Plymouth patent and known as Massachusetts extended from the Atlantic ocean to the South sea. Under a conformatory charter the Connecticut colony was invested with a title to "all that part of our dominions in New England in America bounded on the east by Narragansett river, where the river falleth into the sea, and on the north by the line of Massachusetts plantation and in longitude as the line of Massachusetts colony running east to west."

This grant embraced a territory of the width of the state of Connecticut and extending westward from Rhode Island to the Pacific ocean, an area five times as large as the state of Ohio.

The Firelands now include only the counties of Erie and Huron, and Ruggles township in Ashland county, which was formerly a part of Huron, and the township of Danbury in Ottawa county.

HISTORY OF HURON COUNTY.

Huron county was formed February 7, 1809, and organized in 1815. It originally constituted the whole of "the Firelands." The name, *Huron*, was given by the French to the Wyandot tribe: its signification is probably unknown. The surface is mostly level, some parts slightly undulating; soil mostly sandy mixed with clay, forming a loam. In the northwest part are some prairies, and in the northern part are the sand ridges which run on the southern side of Lake Erie and vary in width from a few rods to more than a mile. Huron was much reduced in 1838, in population and area, by the formation of Erie county. Area about 450 square miles. In 1887 the acres cultivated were 139,956; in pasture, 79,944; woodland, 36,032; lying waste, 2,697; produced in wheat, 459,057 bushels; rye, 5,123; buckwheat, 929; oats, 1,035,918; barley, 5,167; corn, 698,536; broom corn, 200 lbs. brush; meadow hay, 34,880 tons; clover hay, 6,837; flax, 20,300 lbs. fibre; potatoes, 108,166 bushels; butter, 982,978 lbs.; cheese, 347,037; sorghum, 2,218 gallons; maple sugar 23,087 lbs.; honey, 11,672; eggs, 493,179 dozen; grapes, 3,579 lbs.; sweet potatoes, 89 bushels; apples, 35,552; peaches, 4,052; pears, 923; wool, 539,534 lbs.; milch cows owned, 7,756. School census, 1888, 9,929; teachers, 353. Miles of railroad track 138.

TOWNSHIPS AND CENSUS. 1840. 1880.			TOWNSHIPS AND CENSUS. 1840. 1880.		
Bronson	1,291	1,092	Norwich	676	1,157
Clarksfield	1,473	1,042	Norwalk	2,613	7,078
Fairfield.....	1,067	1,359	Peru	1,998	1,194
Fitchville	1,294	822	Richmond	306	1,014
Greenfield	1,460	900	Ridgefield	1,599	2,359
Greenwich	1,067	1,376	Ripley	804	1,038
Hartland	925	954	Ruggles	1,244	
Lyme	1,318	2,575	Sherman	692	1,223
New Haven	1,270	1,807	Townsend	868	1,405
New London	1,218	1,764	Wakeman	702	1,450



THE OLD PIONEERS

Meeting of the Firelands Historical Society, held at the home of Martin Kellogg in Bronson, to celebrate his one hundredth birthday, September 21, 1886.

Population of Huron in 1820 was 6,677; in 1830, 13,340; in 1840, 23,934; 1860, 29,616; 1880, 31,608, of whom 21,728 were born in Ohio; 3,142 New York; 963 Pennsylvania; 124 Indiana; 76 Virginia; 54 Kentucky; 1,783 German Empire; 800 England and Wales; 684 Ireland; 201 British America; 103 France; 69 Scotland, and 3 Sweden and Norway. Census of 1890 was 31,949.

Huron county lies in the southwest portion of the Connecticut Western Reserve, and originally and for many years after its settlement it comprised all of the Firelands, or five hundred thousand acres. Its southern boundary is the forty-first parallel of latitude, and until 1838, when Erie county was formed out of its territory, it extended northwest to the shores of Lake Erie, including the peninsula and islands north of Sandusky bay.

The townships in the county were as nearly as possible laid out five miles square, but owing to the fact that the breadth of the Firelands' tract, from east to west, is twenty-five miles, fifty-one chains and thirty-two links, each township, from east to west, is a fraction more than five miles in extent.

The county is, then, generally speaking, a rectangle, twenty-five miles long by twenty miles in width—its greater length being from east to west. By the original survey, each township was to contain about sixteen thousand acres of land. This would give the area of the county as four hundred and seventy-five square miles, or three hundred and six thousand acres. The auditor's duplicate for 1877 has three hundred and six thousand and ninety-seven acres, which, however, does not include lands regularly laid out into town lots. Land occupied by roads is sometimes, but not generally omitted, as are public grounds, cemeteries, etc.; so that probably two or three thousand acres are thus left out.

The county is bounded on the north by Erie county, on the east by Lorain and Ashland, on the south by Ashland and Richland, and on the west by Seneca and Sandusky counties. It has nineteen townships, as follows: Wakeman, Clarksfield, New London, Townsend, Hartland, Fitchville, Greenwich, Norwalk, Bronson, Fairfield, Ripley, Ridgefield, Peru, Greenfield, New Haven, Lyme, Sherman, Norwich and Richmond. Its principal towns and villages are Norwalk, Bellevue, Monroeville, Plymouth, Wakeman, New London and Collins.

The county originally comprised twenty townships, but Ruggles was set off at the formation of Ashland county in 1846, and became a part of that county.

The village of Bellevue lies partly in Sandusky county, and that of Plymouth partly in Richland county.

Huron county has no lakes or considerable ponds; no large or navigable streams; no high hills, rocky ledges, nor ravines or gorges of considerable depth or extent, and yet the surface is far from an unbroken monotonous plain; on the contrary, it is pleasantly diversified with hills and dales of often picturesque beauty and attractiveness. The slope of the county is to the northward, the numerous streams that are found within its limits all bearing tribute to Lake Erie. On its southern boundary these streams are well nigh insignificant in size; in fact, within five miles, the divide is reached, south of which the streams are tributary to the great Mississippi basin. Huron county is drained by two principal water courses—Huron and Vermillion rivers—at the mouth of each, especially at the former, there are good harbors; but the streams themselves are too small to be navigable to any distance. However, by the aid of a canal

the former stream was at one time ascended by lake craft as far as the village of Milan.

Vermillion river has its source in Savannah lake, Ashland county, where it connects with streams which are tributary to the Ohio, the valleys uniting at the divide in a continuous channel, now deeply filled with drift, indicating that the drainage of both valleys was formerly southward. The connection of the head waters of Huron river with the streams running south is not so distinctly marked, yet it can be easily traced between them and the two valleys, one to the east and one to the west of Mansfield, in Richland county, where the drainage is also to the south.

October 19, 1809, the directors ordered that a road be laid out and cut through Huron county, from north to south, passing from, or near the shore of Lake Erie, on the east side of Huron river, running thence on the most suitable route until it strikes near the center of the north line of the township of Norwalk, and thence southward on a line as near the center of the other township as the ground will admit; that William Eldridge be appointed agent to cause the road to be laid out and cut, causewayed, logged and bridged in the best and most prudent way regarding the interest of the Firelands Company; to be cut and cleared off at least sixteen feet in width, and the stumps to be cut down smooth with the surface of the ground at least twelve feet in width. The sum of eight hundred dollars was appropriated for the work, the agent to receive no compensation for his services.

A second and similar road was ordered laid out north and south through the county, on or near the line between the twentieth and twenty-first ranges. Six hundred dollars was appropriated for the work, and Ebenezer Jesup, Jr., appointed agent to carry it into effect, and to serve without compensation.

A third, leading east and west in the county, to commence on the east side thereof, at the termination of the road already laid, marked or cut through the lands of the Connecticut Land Company, leading from the Portage in the southerly part thereof, butting on said east line, and extend to, or near the middle or center of the south line of the town of Norwalk until it intersects the road already voted to be laid out, or as near as the nature of the ground will admit.

That a fourth road be laid out to commence at or near the south line of Norwalk, where the north and south road crosses it, then running west on township lines, or as near the same as practicable, to the west line of the county.

Another similar road to begin on the south line of Fairfield at the north and south road and running west, following town lines as near as practicable to the county line.

Five hundred dollars were appropriated for the construction of the first road and six hundred dollars for the other two roads, and Isaac Mills appointed agent to construct them, to serve without compensation. On January 31, 1811, an act was passed further organizing Huron county, but the war with England prevented it from being carried out, until January 31, 1815. The first court of common pleas was held at the county seat, in Avery township, (now Milan,) George Tod, presiding judge, and Jabez Wright, Stephen Meeker and Joseph Strong, associates. Complaint having been made that the location of the county

seat was unsuitable, the legislature was induced, on the 26th day of January, 1818, to appoint Abraham Tappan, of Geauga, William Wetmore, of Portage, and Elias Lee, of Cuyahoga county as commissioners to view the present seat of justice of Huron county, and to investigate the claims of other localities, and if they should consider that the interests of the county require it, were authorized to remove it to such a place as in their judgment might be more suitable.

The proprietors of Norwalk were much interested in securing a report in favor of their infant village, and were not, it is to be presumed, backward in presenting its claims, which they did with so much success that the commissioners decided in their favor and removed the county seat thither.

The first meeting of the commissioners of Huron county was held at the county seat, in Avery, on August 1, 1815, at the house of David Abbott. The commissioners were Caleb Palmer, Charles Parker and Eli S. Barnum; Ichabod Marshall was appointed clerk, *pro tem*. Abijah Comstock was appointed county treasurer.

Among the townships set off were the following:

Vermillion, to comprise the whole of the twentieth range, together with all that tract of country belonging to Huron county, east of the twentieth range.

Greenfield, to comprise townships numbers two and three in the twenty-first, twenty-second twenty-third and twenty-fourth ranges.

New Haven, to comprise township number one, in the twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth ranges.

The commissioners decided at this meeting that the bounty for killing wolves in the county of Huron to be paid by said county shall be: For each wolf scalp more than six months old, two dollars; for each wolf scalp less than six months old, one dollar. They also ordered that the building at the county seat which hitherto has been occupied as a school-house, should, for the future, be used for a courthouse and gaol until other arrangements could be made.

The second board of commissioners consisted of Nathan Cummins, for one year; Frederick Falley, for two years; and Bildad Adams, for three years; the length of service being determined by lot, and appointed Frederick Falley as their clerk. The meeting was held at the house of David Abbott, Esq., at the county seat, on the first Monday of December, 1815.

The following townships were ordered set off: Ridgefield, comprising the townships of Ridgefield, and Lyme, together with the township of Sherman.

June, 1822, the wolf bounty was fixed at one dollar and fifty cents for each wolf over six months old, and seventy-five cents for those under that age.

August 12, 1818, it was ordered by the commissioners that notice be given that the commissioners will, on the first Monday of December following, receive proposals for a court house, forty by thirty feet, and a jail; and on the 7th of December following, the commissioners purchased a building of David Underhill & Company for a court house, for the sum of eight hundred and forty-eight dollars.

March 2, 1819, the commissioners contracted with Platt Benedict to build a jail, twenty-four by forty-six feet, two stories high, for the sum of one thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars.

The first term of court was held at the old county seat, in October, 1815.

In Vermillion there were two extensive fortifications on the banks of the river of the same name, and another in the southern part of the township. There were, in the same township, a number of mounds in which human skeletons and scattered bones were found.

In Berlin, in the western part of the township, there was a mound covering a quarter of an acre, with large trees growing upon it. Near the center of the township, on the farm formerly owned by the late Lewis Osborn, was another mound, and in the northern part of the township, a fortification.

In Huron township, mounds were found on the highlands on both sides of the river. Two of these mounds on the west side of the river and about two miles from its mouth, were quite large and nearly round. Human bones and "beads of different colors" were found in them.

In Ridgefield township, Huron county, circular fortifications were found in lot two and lot three of the first section, and a small mound containing human bones, in lot eighteen of the second section. The fortifications are on high banks of branches of the Huron river.

In Norwalk there were three fortifications near the Ridgefield line, and crossing it, on the farm now owned by Isaac Underhill. That gentleman has preserved reminiscences of his plowing, when a boy, through the dry and brittle bones of the men of whom these works are the monuments.

In the western part of New Haven township was a circular fortification with large trees growing on its embankments when first discovered.

Except a few "conical mounds" said to have been found in Norwich, in the southeast part of the township.

ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICIALS OF HURON COUNTY FOR 1909.

Circuit Court—Sixth District: Hon S. A. Wildman, Hon. R. R. Kinkaid, Hon. R. S. Parker.

Common Pleas Court—Hon. C. S. Reed, Hon. S. S. Richards, Hon. S. P. Alexander.

Member of Congress—Fourteenth District: Hon. William G. Sharp, Elyria.

State Senator—Hon. T. A. Dean, Fremont.

Representative—Hon. S. E. Crawford, Norwalk.

Probate Court—Hon. A. E. Rowley, Judge; Mrs. Edith Orr and Marguerite Schock, Deputies.

Auditor—J. E. Smith; Deputy, Adelbert S. Vail.

Clerk—C. E. Tucker; Deputy, Clark Blackman.

Treasurer—John McMann; Deputy, Jennie D. Griffin.

Sheriff—W. H. Sattig; Deputy, Clifford Powers.

Recorder—Carl C. Thompson; Deputy, Arlie A. Holiday.

Prosecuting Attorney—Don J. Young.

Surveyor—Kieth Van Horn; Deputy, L. C. Herrick.

Commissioners—H. G. Trimner, W. H. Grant, H. A. McDonald.

Infirmiry Directors—W. G. Blackmore, J. E. Seeley, C. H. Willoughby; Superintendent, A. G. Bedford.

Coroner—Dr. E. W. Crecelius.

Court Stenographer and Law Librarian—W. R. Bathrick.

Court Bailiff—George H. Gates.

Jury Commission—Frederick Burk, W. S. Weston, Jay Wheeler, H. C. Barnard.

Deputy State Supervisors of Election—J. M. Bechtol, Clerk; William H. Kiefer, Chief Deputy; W. D. Johnson, Leroy Hoyt, J. F. Henninger.

Blind Commission—Hon. C. P. Venus, Dr. R. H. Reynolds, W. W. Whiton, Esq.

Board of County Visitors—Hon. H. S. Mitchell, Mrs. E. K. Fisher, S. Gray, Miss Lottie Gibbs, Hon. C. P. Venus, Mrs. John Rexford.

Janitor—A. J. Curren; Assistant, Julius Davis.

THE FIRST SETTLERS OF THE TOWNSHIPS.

After the organization of Erie county, March 15, 1838, Huron county was left with only twenty townships, whose settlements occurred as follows:

Norwalk, in 1809 by Nathan S. Comstock of New Canaan, Connecticut.

Greenfield, in 1810 by William McKelvey, Jr., of Trumbull county, Ohio.

Lyme, in 1811 by Asa Sherwood of Homer, New York.

New Haven, in 1811 by Caleb Palmer of Trumbull county, Ohio.

Townsend, in 1811 by George Miller of Pennsylvania.

Ridgefield, in 1811 by William Frink.

Sherman, in 1812 by Samuel Seymour, Burrell Fitch and Daniel Sherman of Norwalk, Connecticut.

Bronson, in 1815 by John Welch of Pennsylvania.

New London, in 1815 by Abner Green of Vermont.

Peru, in 1815 by Henry Adams, of Marlborough, Vermont, Elihu Clary and William Smith of Deerfield, Massachusetts.

Fairfield, in 1816 by Widow —— Sample of Newark, Ohio.

Norwich, in 1816 by Chauncey Woodruff and Wilder Lawrence of Saratoga county, New York.

Wakeman, in 1816 by Augustin Canfield of New Milford, Connecticut.

Clarksfield, in 1817 by Samuel Hustead and Ezra Wood of Danbury, Connecticut.

Hartland, in 1817 by William and Alva Munsell.

Fitchville, in 1817 by Peter and Abraham Mead of Connecticut, and Amos Reynolds.

Greenwich, in 1817 by Henry Carpenter of Ulster county, New York.

Ruggles, in 1823 by Daniel Beach.

Richmond, in 1825 by William Tindall.

Ripley, in 1825 by Moses Inscho, D. Broomback and James Dickson.

In 1846 the county of Ashland was organized. At that time the old constitution of Ohio provided that no new counties should be created with less than four hundred square miles of territory, nor should any old county be reduced to less than that amount. In order to give the new county of Ashland the constitutional amount of territory, it was found that Huron, among other counties, would have to be encroached upon, and Ruggles, our southeast corner town, was taken away from us and became part of the new county.

INTERESTING HISTORICAL DATA FROM THE FOUNDING OF PLYMOUTH COLONY TO
THE SETTLEMENT OF NORWALK IN 1809.

BY HON. C. H. GALLUP.

The Pilgrims were English "Separatists" who sailed from Delfshaven (in the Netherlands) in the *Mayflower* and founded Plymouth Colony, New England, November 11, 1620. In 1630 they were followed by others of like faith and hopes, among whom was John Winthrop, bearing a royal commission as governor of Massachusetts Colony. April 23, 1662, John Winthrop and eighteen associates received from Charles II., of England, the munificent grant of "All that part of our dominions in New England in America," * * * from "Narragansett Bay on the east to the South Sea on the west, with the islands thereto adjoining." The same year "The Solemn League and Covenant" for religious reforms and liberties in England, Scotland and Ireland was renounced and by order of King Charles declared illegal.

In 1685 Louis XIV., of France, revoked the "Edict of Nantes" the charter of Huguenot liberties. Those reactionary measures placed the brightest intellects of Europe at the mercy of bigotry and intolerance and drove the independent, brainy men of many faiths and nationalities to this new world to find and establish civil and religious liberty. The descendants of the composite race thus begotten, formed the finest body of creative statesmen since the days of "Moses the Lawgiver" and gave this country the proud title of "The Beacon Light of Liberty."

In 1779, George III., in an effort to check and destroy this new spirit of liberty which was challenging the "Divine Right of Kings to Rule" sent Governor Tryon and Benedict Arnold with an army into Connecticut that destroyed Greenwich, Fairfield, Danbury, Ridgefield, Norwalk, New Haven, East Haven, New London and Groton by fire:

September 13, 1786, Connecticut ceded to the United States for the benefit of herself and the twelve other states, all of the King Charles grant lying west of a line parallel to, and one hundred and twenty miles west, from the west line of Pennsylvania. (West boundaries of Huron and Erie counties.) The one hundred and twenty mile strip was reserved from that concession of Connecticut and has ever since been known as "The Western Reserve."

In 1792, the state of Connecticut, to reimburse those of her citizens who suffered loss by the Tryon-Arnold raid, dedicated five hundred thousand acres of land lying next to the west line of "The Western Reserve" (Huron and Erie counties, or Huron county as first organized). This grant to the fire sufferers is known as "The Firelands." Disputes arose between the grantors and the United States relating to the ownership of the land. May 30, 1800, the United States ceded the land titles to the fire sufferers and the representatives of the "Reserve" transferred the political jurisdiction to the general government. The Indian title was extinguished by treaty July 4, 1805, on payment of eighteen thousand nine hundred and sixteen dollars and sixty-seven cents.

Thomas Comstock, of New Canaan, Connecticut, after the British raid, extended shelter and such assistance as he could to many of the Norwalk suffer-

ers. To repay his kindness, Simeon Raymond and Gould Hoyt released to him their claims in the Firelands, aggregating six hundred and twenty-three pounds, fifteen shillings and three and one-half pence, which under the plan of distribution made Mr. Comstock the owner of lots numbers twenty-four to thirty-eight containing one thousand three hundred and sixty-one acres in the second section, and lots numbers fifty to fifty-six containing six hundred and eighty-four and one-quarter acres in the third section of Norwalk. In 1806, Nathan S. Comstock, son of Thomas, came on to look at and locate his father's lands but failed to find them. Early in the spring of 1809, bringing with him from Connecticut, Darius Ferris and Elijah Hoyt, he was more successful and found the land.

Milan was then Pequattiag, a Moravian Indian village. The Indians were very friendly and gave the pioneers the use of their mission house until they could build a home for themselves. This home was made of logs, with a "puncheon" door; its roof of "shakes;" its bedsteads were bunks made of poles driven into clefts between the logs; its mattresses of sacks stuffed with leaves and moss; its floor of mother earth; its cooking range a brass kettle hung on a pole supported on two crotched stakes; its window lights of greased paper. It was no palace, but rough and strong and made for service, like the strong-willed, iron-handed men who built it; it was a home, *the first home of Norwalk*. It stood a few rods northeast from the "Old State Road" brick schoolhouse, and near the remains of one of "Johnny Appleseed's" old apple trees and was the birthplace of Thomas Comstock, the first white child born in Norwalk, in August, 1812.

In returning to his old home after his family, in the fall of 1809, Nathan S. Comstock encountered such exposure as to impair his health and he never returned, but sold his possessions to Abijah, his brother, who made them his home in 1810. Abijah became the first county treasurer of Huron county. After he had collected the taxes, friends successfully importuned loans of money promising repayment in time for his settlement with the county commissioners. As is usual in such cases, they failed to make good. When confronted with his defalcation, he lost no time in returning to his old home, mortgaged all his Norwalk property back to his brother, Nathan S.; came back to Norwalk and faithfully fulfilled his trust, dollar for dollar. He never recovered his losses, but lived an honest and honored life. He was the brother of Mrs. Eben Boalt, who was the mother of Augusta Boalt, of Cleveland, and the late Giles and Stephen Boalt, of Norwalk. Nathan S. was the father of the late Philo Comstock, of Milan, whose descendants still hold "the old farm." This review is but a brief outline of events which have been our lives for the hundred years now closing. It stops on the threshold of this just maturing first century.

We are to celebrate the event by the return of our sons and daughters, by reunions, reminders and rejuvenations.

On Firelands Day, there will be much in reminiscent review of this passing ten-of-tens. Come and help in the review of our century and bring some one or more contributions to the rare historic collection of the Firelands historical museum, that you may there be represented and remembered in the coming centuries.

In October, 1826, an association of individuals was organized, under the name of "The President, Trustees, etc., of the Norwalk Academy." A three-story brick building was erected on the site of our present high school. In October, 1829, the academy was consolidated with the district schools with John Kennan as principal.

In the museum and the Firelands historical society may be seen a catalogue of the officers and students of Norwalk academy under date of March 17, 1829. Trustees: Platt Benedict, president; Timothy Baker, Deverett Bradley, William Gallup, Henry Buckingham, Thaddeus B. Sturgess, Obadiah Jenney. John Kennan, principal. Nathan G. Sherman, Levina Lindsey, assistants.

On the eleventh of November, 1833, the Norwalk seminary was opened in the academy building under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal church, with Rev. Jonathan E. Chaplin as principal. The seminary burned February 26, 1836; was rebuilt in 1838, and closed in January, 1846, and the whole property sold under execution in favor of the builders. Reopened as Norwalk institute in August, 1846, under the auspices of the Baptists of Norwalk.

Rev. Jeremiah Hall was the first principal of the "Institute," and was succeeded by A. S. Hutchins, who continued as principal until 1855, when the institute ceased to exist by reason of the Akron school law providing for graded public schools.

In March, 1855, the school board purchased the brick building occupied by the Norwalk institute, to be used as a central and high school building for the district. The purchase price was three thousand five hundred dollars which embraced the entire square occupied by the present beautiful high school building, a small library and some apparatus. In 1884 the central school building was erected at a cost of about sixty thousand dollars. The first graduate of the high school was Sarah E. Wilkinson in 1861. The largest class graduated is the class of 1905 numbering eighteen young men and sixteen young women. In all, two hundred and thirty-one young men and three hundred and ninety-five young women have been graduated from the Norwalk high school.

HURON COUNTY'S SOLDIERS.

Huron county has always had patriots ready and willing to answer any and all calls the government made upon it for troops. Hundreds of her sons perished in the war for the Union. Hundreds also responded to the call for troops in our war with Spain.

The author of this work, a soldier himself, would gladly give the name and service of every Huron county man who served under the "old flag" in any war in which our country has been engaged, but the space allotted for this work is too limited for such notices.

The soldiers of the army of the United States have ever been actuated by the impulses and convictions of patriotism and of eternal right, and combined in the strong bands of fellowship and unity by the toils, the dangers, and the victories of war.

A G. A. R. post is maintained at Norwalk, and is well attended by the comrades.

ORIGINAL
M. E. CHURCH



2ND M. E. CHURCH



PRESENT M. E. CHURCH

In this connection, we copy the following address delivered by the Rev. E. J. Craft, before the Mansfield historical society, June 12, 1902, the subject of the address being "Our Unknown Heroes." Mr. Craft is a minister of the Protestant Episcopal church, and at the time of delivering this address was rector of St. Timothy's, Massillon.

"Standing in our national cemetery at Gettysburg, one can see around him the marble shafts and granite blocks which mark the resting place of the nation's illustrious dead. Here and there among them are grim cannon, keeping their sombre guard over the silent city. Down the slope which stretches away south and eastward, in the early morning I saw thousands, it seemed, of little marble slabs which the sun's rays kissed into glistening beauty. They bore the simple inscription 'unknown.' I knew that after the fearful battle hundreds, yes thousands, of dead men were carried hither and buried in these long trenches—unrecognized; no loving hand to fashion for them a last resting place; no one to preserve their memory and hand down to future generations their honored names. What part each took in the great struggle, what deeds of daring and high courage they performed, none but God can know; but here no less than there under the fluted marble on which loving hands have caused to be engraved a fitting eulogy, sleep heroes of our nation, who toiled, suffered and died that their children might inherit the promise. Lost though their individuality may be, their personal efforts unknown, intermingled with the deeds of thousands, as their bones which lie crumbling there, yet no less to them we owe a nation's debt of gratitude.

"How typical this is of the great movements of society which have brought the blessing or upliftment to the race of man. Here and there, in these great epochs of history some figures stand out clear and distinct among the multitudes, and around which all interest seems to be concentrated; but back, far back, in the past are souls who inflamed with holy zeal and love for eternal right, have set in motion a current of events which gathering force has burst forth from obscurity, and sweeping onward irresistibly has carried humanity on its tide farther up the height of progress.

"In the pages of the ordinary historian their names are unwritten. Indeed such research from effect to primal cause is for him an impossibility. He can only gaze upon the superstructure as it emerges from obscurity and forget those who toiled with bleeding hands upon the foundation far below. Yet no one can fully appreciate a great movement of society until by tracing back through the centuries he is able to be in affinity with the thought, conditions, feeling, spirit and the endeavors which gave it birth, and can count the cost by which the gift has been transmitted to him from the past. That is the glorious work which is being performed by the Richmond county historical society. In bringing to life by patient research the early history of Richland county, telling to the generations of the present the splendid story of the past, tracing out the conditions which met the pioneers, their heroic struggle and their achievements, which have resulted in the founding and developing of one of the most splendid sections of country upon the face of the globe—bringing before the present generation that history of courage and fortitude, whose remembrance cannot but stimulate and intensify the spirit of true manhood—the

love of home, whose every spot is sanctified by the toil and struggle of those whose bones make of all a hallowed ground.

"It is a worthy task for worthy men, for spirit touches spirit into existence. A nation's strength is in its history. Generations are what generations have been. It is the knowledge and veneration for the past which wings loyalty to jump from one generation to another, as the sun leaps from mountain peak to mountain peak around the world. For there is that in this history of our unknown heroes, and in the development upon the foundations they have laid, which cannot but call forth admiration, which is the parent of emulation, and he who presents to mankind an ideal which takes hold upon their thoughts and imagination has given to the world as great a gift as the Olympian Jove of Phidias or the Madonna of Raphael. And what a subject is here. Adventures which in interest and exhibition of courage and resource equal the fabled Ulysses, deeds which outrank a Hector's prowess, devotion and sacrifice beyond that of a Prometheus, heroism transcending a Thermopylae; for even I, unskilled in this county's early history, can imagine something of that which took place in the foundation building, in the long journey from distant states, the parting of friends, the long look into the perils of the way, the paths they blazed through the trackless forest, the danger from wild beasts, the weariness, the ambush of Indians, the battle from the wagons, the shrieks of tortured captives, the blazing cabins, the mutilated bodies in the embers, the anguish of bereavement, sickness, the wayside grave, the humble prayer, the battle with the forests, the clearing of the land, the plowing of the foreign soil, the failure of crops and the wasting of the famine. Every foot of soil was won by tears and blood. For us they suffered that we might inherit the promise. Here was enacted scenes at which a world might well have wondered, and which took as much true courage as when the Light Brigade charged at Balaklava.

"You, of this historical society, are erecting a monument to the memory of the early settlers of the county which will far outlast the marble slabs and the granite shafts. For as we are gathered here to listen to the records of the past, in the inner sanctuary of every soul, where we have placed the hallowed images of our ideals, there with warrior, statesman, poet, philosopher and heroes, we will place one of majestic outline and of lofty inspiration, which we will consecrate to the unknown heroes—the pioneers of the early days."

THE FIRELANDS.

BY DR. F. E. WEEKS.

Something over two hundred and fifty years ago, John Winthrop of England was elected governor of the colony of Massachusetts Bay. He was held in high esteem by Charles I, King of England, who gave him a magnificent diamond ring. Eleven years later, after the death of both these men, Charles II ascended the throne and John Winthrop the second was governor of the colony of Connecticut. The colonists desired larger possessions and more liberty, and in 1662 they delegated their governor to go to England and endeavor to obtain from the king a new charter. When Governor Winthrop reached

England he obtained an interview with the king, and by way of introduction showed him the ring which the elder Charles had given to the elder Winthrop. The king was so much affected by the sight of it that he was moved to tears. At this opportune moment Winthrop presented before the king the prepared charter which he had brought with him. This document provided for the right of self government and extended the territory of the colony westward to the "South Sea" as the Pacific ocean was called. When the king asked how far it was to the "South Sea," Winthrop said he thought it could be seen from the western hills of the colony. The requests seemed to the king to be very modest, so he signed the charter. That charter gave to Connecticut the territory from which the Western Reserve was created, and much more came of that diamond ring than the king or John Winthrop dared even dream of. Connecticut enjoyed the possession of her unbroken wilderness, with its vague western boundary for more than a hundred years.

Owing to the ignorance of the English people and of the colonists themselves, of the true extent of the western portion of our land, charters were given to other colonies which included the same western territory. Fierce disputes grew out of this as the lands were settled more. Virginia, Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut all claimed wide strips from sea to sea. After the war of the revolution the United States government claimed these disputed tracts and some bloodshed followed. To settle the matter Connecticut, in 1786, ceded to the United States all claim to her western lands but reserved a portion extending one hundred and twenty miles west from the west line of Pennsylvania, and, of course, the same width as the state of Connecticut, with the 41st parallel of latitude for its southern boundary. This tract of land was called New Connecticut, or the Western Reserve. The conflicting claims of the other states were not finally adjusted until 1800. The United States claimed jurisdiction over the Western Reserve, although recognizing the right of Connecticut to the ownership of the lands.

This tract of land became a portion of the Northwest Territory and was included in the state of Ohio when that state was organized. During the war of the revolution the British sent different expeditions which burned the towns along the coast of Connecticut. Among these were the towns of New London, Norwalk and Danbury.

To compensate the sufferers, the state of Connecticut, in 1792, set apart a portion of the Western Reserve, containing a half million acres of land, and granted it to them. This was called the "Sufferers" land, or "Firelands," and was set off from the western extremity of the Reserve, and comprises the present counties of Huron and Erie, as well as the townships of Danbury, in Ottawa county and Ruggles, in Ashland county.

The state of Connecticut incorporated the grantees of the Firelands, some nineteen hundred in number, into a company which had full power to transact all business necessary to be done in surveying and dividing the lands. Nothing appears to have been done until after the state of Ohio was organized in 1802. In 1803 a new charter was granted to the owners of the Firelands by the state of Ohio. A board of directors was then chosen, and was authorized to extinguish the Indian titles, to survey the lands into townships and to divide them among the

owners according to the amount of their individual losses, and to levy a tax to defray the necessary expenses. On July 4th, 1805, Isaac Mills, as agent of the company, and one Janett, representing the United States, met the chiefs of the Indian tribes at Fort Industry, where Toledo now stands, and made a treaty with them by which all Indian title was relinquished for a sum of money amounting to about nineteen thousand dollars. Thus the first owners of the soil were the last to relinquish their claims, and it is gratifying to note that the claims of the red men were recognized and respected by the Connecticut people. The title to the Firelands is derived from a monarch of England, from the state of Connecticut, from the United States and from the Indians.

In 1800 the territorial government of Ohio established Trumbull county, comprising the whole of the Western Reserve. In 1805 it was divided and the counties of Geauga and Portage set off. Huron county was organized February 7, 1807, but was left attached to Geauga and Portage counties for judicial purposes. It comprised more than the Firelands at first, but a little later was reduced to the limits of the Firelands. In 1838 the northern part was cut off and organized as Erie county. In 1846 Ruggles township was detached to go towards forming Ashland county.

The first county seat of Huron county was located on the farm of David Abbott, north of the present village of Milan. This was in 1811, but in 1818 the location was changed to the new village of Norwalk.

On December 16, 1805 the Firelands Company, by their agent, Taylor Sherman, (grandfather of Hon. John Sherman) contracted with John McLean and James Clark, of Danbury, Conn., to survey the Firelands "by Almon Ruggles or some competent person," the outlines of the half million acres to be fixed and the whole to be run off into townships five miles square, the work to be done within a year, unless prevented by the Indians, and provided the Congress of the United States ratified the treaty made at Fort Industry. The United States did not run the south line of the Western Reserve as soon as expected, so the time for completing the survey was extended to June 1st, 1807. The establishment of the south line being still delayed, the directors of the Firelands Company empowered Isaac Mills and Isaac Bronson to ascertain the true south boundary of the Reserve, and the southwest corner of the Firelands, as well as the dividing line between the Firelands and the rest of the Reserve, (which had been sold to the Connecticut Land Co.). Seth Pease was employed to do the work. In the spring of 1806 a company of twelve men started from Danbury to commence the survey which Ruggles had been hired to make. Simeon Hoyt, who afterwards settled in Clarksfield, was one of the party and was employed as flagman to go ahead of the compass. They had eight horses and three wagons. At Pittsburg Almon Ruggles joined them. They spent some time at Cleveland (which had but three families) while preparing tents, pack saddles and a canoe. The latter was made from the trunk of a tree which measured eight feet in diameter. Ruggles took part of the men and the canoe and started out to get the outline of the lake shore, while James Clark took the rest of the party, of which Hoyt was one, to run the west line. One of their horses was stolen by the Indians and another was drowned in Rocky river. When the west line which was to be parallel with the west line of Pennsylvania,

was run, the men went to Huron, where they found the other party. John Flemmond had established a trading post at that place in 1805, and there were plenty of Indians and squaws as well as Canadian Frenchmen. After surveying the islands in the lake, which Hoyt says was a difficult job on account of the great number of rattlesnakes and the tree tops, they went to Cleveland to wait while the surveyors could make their calculations and know just where to run the east line of the Firelands so as to cut off the half million acres. The most of the men went back to Connecticut but Hoyt and one other remained with Ruggles and Clark and were chainmen for them during their surveys of the winter. They suffered much from the severe cold while working at running the east line and the township lines during this winter. In the spring they started for Connecticut with only twelve dollars to pay their way. They reached New York in twenty-one days with fifty cents of their money. From there they went to Danbury, after an absence of thirteen months. After a time it was found that the point from which the south line of the Reserve was measured was two miles too far west, thus making the west line of the Firelands too far west and the whole work would have to be done again.

Maxfield Ludlow, a deputy surveyor of the United States, then ran the south and west lines of the Reserve, setting a post at each mile and noting in his minutes the character of the country passed over. Ruggles then ran the east line of the Firelands again, commencing June 8th, 1808, Mr. Hoyt again assisting him. The east and west lines of the Firelands were supposed to be parallel with the west line of Pennsylvania. After the east line was run off the boundaries of the townships were marked off and Ruggles returned to Danbury, but Hoyt and Jabez Wright built a log hut on the bank of Huron river and remained during the winter. When Ruggles returned in the spring of 1809 they proceeded to survey into lots the townships of Vermillion, Florence, Wakeman and Clarksfield, and surveyed into sections the townships of New Haven, Norwalk and Berlin. Mr. Ruggles received the sum of three dollars per mile for this survey and it is interesting to note that subsequent calculations showed that the Firelands, as set off by Ruggles contained five hundred thousand and twenty-seven acres. Mr. Ruggles soon afterwards settled on the lake shore in Vermillion township, on the farm which includes the well known summer resort of "Ruggles Beach," and where his son, Richard Ruggles, still lives. Jabez Wright settled at Huron and Simeon Hoyt in Clarksfield.

These surveying parties encountered many dangers and suffered many hardships. They lived principally on flour and salt pork, although a woman at Huron baked bread for them during the last survey. The party was so large as to frighten the game away and they could not take time to hunt it. We should honor these pioneer surveyors for their labors in providing a way for the future settlement of the country.

After the lands were surveyed it was necessary to divide them among the various proprietors. In 1808 a committee was appointed to devise some plan, and the following one was adopted. There were thirty townships, each with four sections, making one hundred and twenty sections. The total amount of losses sustained by the original grantees was divided by one hundred and twenty and the quotient, one thousand, three hundred and twenty-four pounds (the

English division of money being still in use) represented the value of each section. One hundred and twenty tickets were prepared, with the names of claimants whose claims amounted to the total value of one section, written upon each. An equal number of other tickets were prepared with the name of a township and number of a section written upon each. The tickets were put into two boxes and one of each kind drawn by a disinterested person, and the section thus drawn was the property of the persons whose names were found upon the other ticket. We do not learn how the different proprietors managed to divide the sections. The most of the claims had probably been sold to speculators or land companies who obtained possession of large tracts and the actual settlers often selected the land they desired after they had arrived here. This drawing was made on the 9th day of November, 1808. Very few, if any, of the owners of these lands ever lived upon them. Among the names of the proprietors or original fire sufferers we find many names which sound familiar to Clarksfield people, such as Barnes, Cunningham, Husted, Knapp, Barnum, Starr, Mead, Gregory, Finch, Wildman, Hoyt, Wood, etc.

Forty-six different persons by the name of Mead were "sufferers" at the town of Greenwich, Conn. On account of the method of making the division of the lands, many of the purchasers of small tracts could not tell where their land lay until they reached the borders of the Firelands and they could learn where their township lay, and when the township was reached they had to find the lot by means of the trees which the surveyor had marked. The location might be good or it might be poor and there was something of a lottery about it. Some of the pioneers who came from the rocky hillsides of New England or New York (like the grandfather of the writer) were not able to judge of the best soil and passed by the sandy land of Berlin township and chose a tract of dense timber with its heavy clay soil, further from the lake shore. By reason of the Firelands being owned by so many different persons, all anxious to sell, the new settlements did not proceed steadily westward from an older settlement, but were isolated from each other. The date of settlement of the different townships shows this:

Huron, 1805.	Ridgefield, 1811.
Vermillion, 1808.	Sherman, 1811.
Danbury, 1809.	Bronson, 1815.
Portland, 1809.	New London, 1815.
Groton, 1809.	Peru, 1815.
Florence, 1809.	Fairfield, 1816.
Berlin, 1810.	Norwich, 1817.
Milan, 1810.	Wakeman, 1817.
Margaretta, 1810.	Clarksfield, 1817.
Oxford, 1810.	Greenwich, 1817.
Norwalk, 1810.	Hartland, 1817.
Greenfield, 1810.	Fitchville, 1817.
Perkins, 1810.	Ruggles, 1823.
New Haven, 1811.	Richmond, 1825.
Lyme, 1811.	Ripley, 1825.
Townsend, 1811.	

Prior to and during the War of 1812 emigration to Ohio was slight. After the war and especially during the years of 1817-18, when there was a revival of trade and those owning property in New England could sell it if they wished to, there was a great tide of emigration. One other cause operated powerfully to hasten emigration at this time, viz., the cold summer of 1816. In New England there were severe frosts every month in the year, and crops were nearly destroyed. Mr. Zabez Hanford, of Wakeman, (father of Mrs. Marquis D. Randall, of Clarksfield) who lived in Connecticut at this time, made the following entry in his family Bible: "The year of our Lord 1816 being a remarkable year is worthy of record. The spring was very cold and backward with considerable thunder. From the 6th to the 10th day of June, very cold with severe frost. The ground froze to some thickness; the wind generally from the north and dry. Snow fell in Canada on the 10th of this month twelve inches deep. Corn all cut to the ground. The first of August the summer continues to be dry and cold. The corn is now very small with but little hope of a crop. Frosts July 24th, August 27th and 29th, so that clothes spread out were frozen stiff."

Communication by railroad, canals and steamboats did not exist as now and it was difficult to get food from other sections of the country. The following winter was severe and the spring backward. There was much distress and many people nearly perished from starvation. At this time highly colored stories of the rich soil and mild climate of Ohio were circulated. A sort of stampede took place from the cold and desolate hills of New England to the land which promised so much. One writer says that he well remembered the tide of emigration through and from Connecticut on its way west during the summer of 1817. Some persons went in covered wagons—frequently a family consisting of father, mother and eight or nine small children, with perhaps one a babe at the breast—some on foot and some crowded together under the cover with kettles, gridirons, feather beds, crockery and the family Bible, Watts' Psalms and Hymn Book and Webster's spelling book. Others started in ox carts and trudged on foot at the rate of ten miles a day. Many of these persons were in a state of poverty and begged their way as they went. Some of them died before they reached their destination.

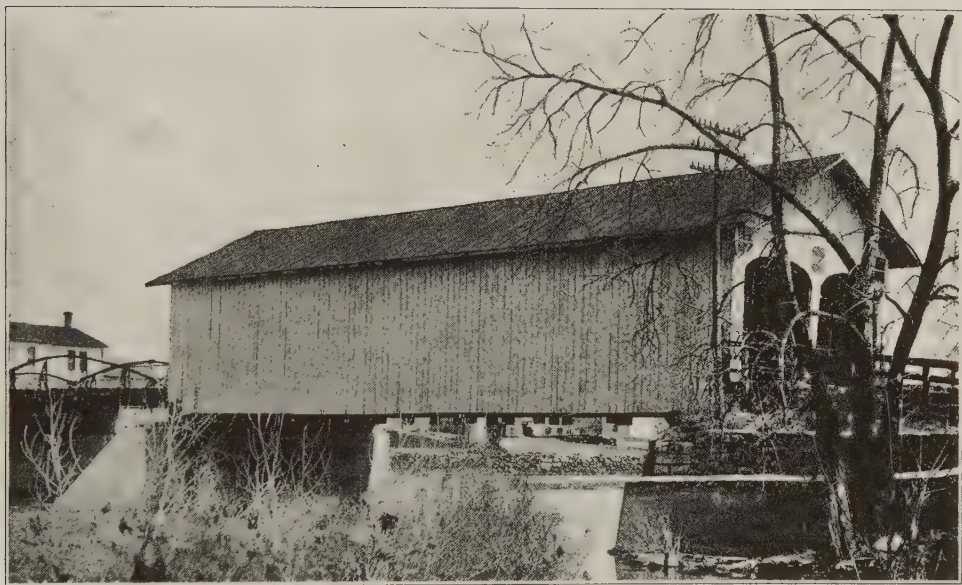
The roads over the Alleghenies between Philadelphia and Pittsburg were then rude, steep and dangerous and some of the more precipitous slopes were consequently strewn with the carcasses of wagons, carts and oxen which had been 'shipwrecked' in their perilous descents. The scenes on the road—of families gathered at night in miserable sheds called taverns, mothers crying, children crying, fathers swearing—were a mingled comedy of errors. Even when they arrived at their new homes * * * frequently the whole family—father, mother, children—speedily exchanged the fresh complexion and elastic step of their first abodes for the sunken cheek and languid movement which marks the victim of intermittent fever.

The above sketch will show that our ancestors did not always find the path to a new home in the wilderness one of roses.

Henry Howe, the Ohio historian, in "The Family Magazine" of 1837 says: "The frontispiece of the present number represents a halt for the night of an emigrant with his family; one, perhaps, who has left his native soil and the inheritance

of his fathers, and seeks in the far west for that independence in his worldly circumstances which he has tried in vain to gain from the stony and barren patrimonial homestead; or perhaps one who has looked on his rapidly increasing family, and, ambitious of doing something for his children while he is in the prime of life, or anxious to see them settled comfortably around him, that his old age may be cheered by their presence, has resolved to go to the far west, the land which is represented as flowing with milk and honey, the land which repays with an hundred fold the labour expended upon it, and the riches of whose bosom far exceed those in the mines of Peru. Resolved to emigrate, the emigrant collects together his little property, and provides himself with a wagon and two or three horses, as his means permit; a rifle, a shot gun and an axe slung over his shoulder form part of his equipments, and his trusty dog becomes the companion of his journey. In the wagon are placed his bedding, his provisions, and such cooking utensils as are indispensably necessary. Everything being ready, the wife and children take their seats, the father of the family mounts the box, and now they are on the move. As they pass through the village which has been to them the scene of many happy hours, they take a last look at the spots which are hallowed by association; the church with its lowly spire, an emblem of that humility which befits a Christian, and the burial ground where the weeping willow bends mournfully over the headstone which marks the parents' grave; nor do the children forget their playground nor the white schoolhouse where the rudiments of education have been instilled into their minds.

The road is at first comparatively smooth and their journey pleasant; their way is chequered with divers little incidents, while the continual changes in the appearance of the country around them, and the anticipation of what is to come prevent those feelings of despondency which might otherwise arise on leaving a much-loved home. When the roads are bad or hilly the family quit the wagon and plod their way on foot, and at night they may be seen assembled round the fire made by the roadside, partaking of their frugal supper. The horses are unharnessed, watered and secured with their heads to the trough, and the emigrants arrange themselves for the night, while their faithful dog keeps watch; or if the close of the day finds them near a tavern or farm house, a bargain is struck for the use of the fireplace and part of the kitchen, and the family passes the night on the floor. Amid all the privations and vicissitudes in their journey they are cheered by the consciousness that each day lessens the distance between them and the land of promise, and that the fertile soil of the west will recompense them for all their trials. The roads become more and more rough, the swamps and little forest streams are rendered passable by logs placed side by side, and the bridges thus formed are termed "corduroy" from their ridgy and striped appearance. The axe and the rifle of the emigrant or "mover" as he is termed in the west, are now brought daily, almost hourly into use. With the former he cuts down saplings or young trees to throw across the roads which, in many places, are almost impassable; with the latter he kills squirrels, wild turkeys or such game as the forest affords him, for by this time his provisions are exhausted. If perchance a buck crosses his path and is brought down by a lucky shot, it is carefully dressed and hung up in the forks of the trees, fires are built and the meat cut into small strips and smoked and dried for future subsistence. The road through the woods now



OLD COVERED BRIDGE ERECTED 1836, MONROEVILLE

becomes intricate, the trees being merely felled and drawn aside so as to permit a wheeled carriage to pass, and the emigrant is often obliged to be guided in his route only by the "blaze" of the surveyor on the trees, and at every few rods to cut away the branches which obstruct his passage. The stroke of his axe reverberates through the woods but no answering sound meets the woodman's ear to assure him of the presence of friend or foe. At night in these solitudes he hears and sees the wolves stealing through the gloom and snuffing the scent of the intruders, and now and then the bloodshot eye of the catamount glares through the foliage. At length the emigrant arrives at the landmarks which indicate to him the proximity of his own possessions. A location for the cabin is now selected, near a small stream of running water, and if possible, on the south side of a slight elevation. No time is lost. The trees are immediately felled, and shortly you can perceive a cleared space of ground of perhaps a few rods in circumference. Stakes, forked at the top, are driven into the ground, on which are placed logs, and the chinks between these are stopped with clay. An inclosure is thus thrown up hastily, to protect the inmates from the weather.

The trunks of the trees are rolled to the edge of the clearing and surmounted by stakes driven crosswise into the ground; the tops of the trees are piled on the trunks, thus forming a brush fence. By degrees the surrounding trees are killed by girdling. Some that are fit to make into rails are cut down and split, while others are either left to rot or are logged up and burned. The next season a visible improvement has taken place. Several acres have been added to the clearing. The emigrant's residence begins to assume the appearance of a farm. The brush fence is replaced by a worm fence. The temporary shanty is transformed into a comfortable log cabin, and although the chimney is built of only small sticks piled together and filled in with clay, and occupies an end of the cabin, it shows that the inward man is duly attended to, and the savory fumes of venison and other good things prove that the comforts of this life are not forgotten, and that due respect is paid to that important organ in the human economy—the stomach. In a few years or even months, the retired cabin, once so solitary, becomes the nucleus of a little settlement; new portions of ground are cleared, cabins are erected, and in a short time the settlement can turn out a dozen efficient hands for a raising bee, logging bee, etc. A saw mill is soon in operation on one of the neighboring streams, the log huts receive a poplar weather-boarding, and as the little settlement increases, a church and school house appear; a mail is established, and before many years elapse, a fine road is made to the nearest town; a stage coach, which runs once or twice a week, connects the place to the populous country to the east of it. A generation passes over. The log buildings have all disappeared. In their places stand handsome edifices of brick or wood, painted of a pure white, and the settlement has all the conveniences and refinements of its parent settlements on the Atlantic frontier. The emigrant himself is now an aged man. His locks are silvered by time. His toils are over. Some fine summer's evening he may be seen seated in the porch of his dwelling, his frank, open countenance beaming with delight as he relates the tale of his early adventures to his little grandchildren, who, clustering about his knees, drink in every word with intense interest.

The first roads through the forest were mere trails and could only be followed by a line of blazed trees, made by chopping off the bark from a spot on one side of the tree, and not burning it by fire as some men supposed. The next step was to chop the brush and small trees from the line of the road, leaving the large trees to be girdled. In many places logs of wood, from twelve to fifteen inches in diameter and twelve or more feet in length, were laid side by side, crosswise of the road. Although the logs were of a uniform size when laid, some would sink into the mud more than others; one end of a log might be supported by a stump or large root and held up while the other end would sink in the mud and thus the road became very uneven in time. The roots of the large trees, around which the driver must pick his way, added to the unevenness of the road and a wagon would rock as much as a ship in a storm and the horses be almost thrown from their feet. Some of these logs are to be found in the roads to this day, though placed there fifty, sixty or seventy years ago.

When the settler had selected the location for his house, near a spring, if possible, and this fact accounts for the crookedness of some of the earlier roads which wound along the banks of streams, near which the springs were found, he first cleared away the brush and trees from a space large enough so that none of the standing trees, when they were afterward felled, would endanger the safety of the house or occupants. Word would be sent to his neighbors, (everybody within a dozen miles might be considered neighbors) to come to the "raising." An experienced man was selected for the "boss" and an expert axman for each corner to cut the notches in the logs so as to make them fit together. As soon as logs enough to make a commencement had been cut and hauled, the work of building the house began. The logs were laid butt and top alternately, to keep the walls level. When the walls were breast high, skids and handspikes were used. The laborers were divided into two parties and there was a strife to see which side would get their walls up first. Accidents sometimes happened from the slipping of the log, and the ever present black jug did not always help matters. Sometimes the floor of the house was "Mother Earth," but it was generally made of puncheons, which were planks or slabs two or three inches thick hewed on one side with a broadaxe and laid on sleepers. It was far from being tight or smooth. When the walls were as high as the eaves, a log was placed on each end wall, but long enough to project a foot or so beyond each side wall. These were called the "eave bearers" and supported the "butting poles." The logs forming the gable ends, called "trappings," were of basswood or some other soft timber, which was easily chopped off to make the slant of the roof. Poles called "ribs" were laid lengthwise to support the roof. If the settler was in a hurry the roof was made of bark, but it was usually made of "shakes," which were shingles three or four feet long split from a straight grained tree by a tool called a "frow." The first course of shakes was laid on the ribs against the butting pole. A "weight pole" was laid lengthwise of the roof near the upper end of the first course of shakes and kept from rolling down by short pieces of wood called "knees," resting against the butting pole. This weight pole made the butting pole for the next course, and thus the roof was carried to the peak. No nails were used and the roof would shed water first rate and last many years.

When the logs were cut out to form a doorway a piece of plank or puncheon was set up at each side and pinned to the ends of the logs by wooden pins to form a door casing. The door was made of puncheon, or plank if a sawmill was in reach, fastened together with a cross piece at top and bottom, pinned on with wooden pins. The wooden latch was on the inside of the door and was raised from the outside by means of a leather string which was passed through a gimlet hole in the door. The door could be locked on the inside by pulling the string inside, and from this circumstance came the accepted symbol of hospitality, "the latch string hangs out." The windows were made by sawing out a section of one of the logs and fastening some upright sticks in the opening. To these sheets of paper were pasted and well greased with lard or bear grease. They let in a kind of subdued light, but were not much needed for the door and huge chimney let in plenty of light in the summer and in the winter the light of the fire was sufficient.

The great chimney was generally built against one end of the house. The lower part was made of small logs or of stones and the upper end of thin pieces of wood laid up in clay, and the whole chimney was well plastered on the inside with clay. Some chimneys would be built only part of the way up, and left for a more convenient time for finishing, which never came. Sometimes the chimney was built up on the inside of the house with the lower part built of stones. Sometimes the settler would not take the trouble to cut out a section of the wall for the back of the fireplace, but would wait until the logs were burned through. It is related that in such a cabin a bear once suddenly made his appearance at the opening back of the fireplace attracted by the savory odor of a kettle of corn mush which was standing one side of the fire. The woman of the house was alone, so without any ado, he thrust his head through the opening and proceeded to eat the mush and then went away. The fireplace generally had a hearth of stones, but sometimes a portion of the cabin next the fireplace was not floored over and the fire was built on the ground. In such a case it was possible to do what boys are now sometimes told to do: "Sit on the floor and hang your feet off." Building a fire in these fireplaces required some degree of skill. As large a log as could be handled was first rolled to the back side of the fireplace, and was known as the "backlog." The "andirons" were placed at the front of the hearth and a smaller log, called the "forestick," was laid upon them. The space between the logs was filled in with fine stuff and the fire kindled. The backlog of green timber would last for several days, and was often hauled into the house by a horse. The andirons were used to allow a draft under the forestick. They were made of wrought or cast iron, and the more expensive ones were of brass and were ornamental when kept brightly polished. The furniture of the fireplace was not complete without the long handled shovel and tongs, as well as bellows. The shovel and tongs were sometimes ornamented with brass to correspond with the andirons. The fire would be covered with ashes at night, but if not properly done might go out in the night and then a boy might have to be sent to a neighbor's to "borrow fire."

An iron crane was fastened to one side of the fireplace in such a way that it could be swung out from over the fire. The kettles were hung on the crane by hooks of different lengths or on a "trammel," according to the condition of the fire. In some of the more primitive fireplaces there was no crane, but a

stick of timber called the "bearing stick" was placed across the chimney ten feet or so above the hearth, and a chain was fastened to it so as to hang down over the fire. The hook to support the kettle was hooked into a link of the chain at the proper height to suit the fire, and this arrangement answered the purpose very well, although not as convenient as a crane. Potatoes were roasted in the ashes, and no modern way of roasting excels it for quality of the "finished product." The next improvement was the "bake kettle" or "Dutch oven" with its three legs and a cover with a raised rim. Live coals were drawn out on the hearth and the kettle was set upon them, while more coals were heaped—not on an enemy's head—but on the cover, and thus the contents of the kettle were cooked. After this came the "tin oven," or "reflector," which was set on the hearth in front of the fire and the heat was reflected from its polished back and it would "bake roast or broil." As the frame and brick house superseded the log house, while the fireplace was in use, the brick oven built at the side of the fireplace was a great improvement.

The oven was heated by building a fire in it or shoveling in some coals. When heated, the coals and ashes were swept out and the heat retained by the oven was sufficient to do the baking. The men folks had to look out and provide a supply of "oven wood," generally of white ash split fine, and have it dry for baking day. A long handled flat shovel was used for taking the bread, etc., from the oven. Last of all came the modern stove.

The spaces between the logs of the house were filled with triangular strips of wood, or moss, and well plastered with mud. Every man was his own mason. With a cord or so of blazing hickory wood in the fire place, these houses were fairly comfortable, but the objection to that kind of heat was that it was too much on one side; the face would scorch while the back was freezing.

There was a loft to the house, reached by a ladder on the outside of the house or in one corner of the room. It was an airy place for a person to sleep on a winter night, for the numerous cracks let in plenty of fresh air as well as snow. In some houses the roof extended down over the eaves far enough to form a porch or "stoop." A passable bedstead could be made by inserting one end each, of a side and end pole into holes bored into the logs at the proper distance from one corner of the room, the other ends of the poles being supported by a forked stick for a leg. The other side and end would be fastened to these and strips of basswood bark wound around the poles to support the tick. Probably the most of the settlers of this town brought their beds with them and were not reduced to this primitive method. The first settlers of this town could not bring very many articles of furniture with them and depended upon the trees of the forest to furnish the material for ordinary furniture and dishes. The table furniture consisted largely of a few pewter plates, dishes and spoons, but mostly of wooden bowls, trenches and noggins. Gourds and hard shelled squashes made serviceable dippers or other dishes, and spoons could be made from horn. The table might be made of a wide slab hewed smooth on the top with a broad-ax, with four legs inserted in auger holes. For seats, benches and three-legged stools were used. One writer says that it was necessary to have three-legged stools, for more than that number of legs could not touch the floor at once.

Wooden pins in the walls supported shelves upon which were arranged the housewife's store of pewter and wooden dishes.

Poles overhead supported circles of dried pumpkins, strings of dried apples, ropes of onions, etc., at a time when these were raised. The ax, broad-ax, frow and auger were about the only tools required for building a house, and no nails were needed. The houses often had but a single room, unless the settler was a man of means and could afford the luxury of a double house which was the same as two houses joined together, end to end, with a covered passage way between them. A more pretentious house was built of hewed logs, with sawed clapboards for the gable ends, and glass windows. Many houses had two large doors opposite each other so that the back logs could be hauled in by a horse.

The barns were necessarily made of logs, and the old log house was frequently turned into a barn when a new house was built. Those settlers who were not fortunate enough to get a location near a spring of water were obliged to dig wells. Instead of the handy pumps of these days the pioneer used a "well sweep," which consisted of an unright post with a fork at the top, placed at the side of the well. In this crotch was fastened a pole by means of a pin, with the small end up, and to the end of this a rope or smaller pole was fastened and the bucket suspended from it. The large end of the sweep was weighted so that it would balance a bucket of water.

The new settler found his land covered with a dense growth of huge trees and thick underbrush, unlike the rocky hills of New England or New York. He frequently had but little experience in chopping trees and found it slow work to chop the large trees, but there were expert choppers who could be hired to "slash" a piece of timber for four or five dollars an acre, and one man could chop an acre a week. For ten dollars an acre they would chop the trees and pile the brush, ready for burning. They planned their work with much skill and felled the trees so as to bring the bodies of several together, then piled the brush on top of them. After the brush was burned the trunks could be hauled around a little so as to bring them parallel and form a log heap with little labor. Others who were not so particular with their work would commence at one side of the place which was to be cleared and cut the trees partly off, in such a manner that they would fall toward the center of the strip cut over. When the other end of the strip was reached a tree was cut off, and in falling it broke another and that another, and so on until all the trees on the strip chopped over would be down in a huge winrow. The chopping was generally done in the winter and after harvest was the time for "burning the fallow." Fire was applied to the brush and the dry leaves and branches made a roaring bonfire in a few minutes. Such fires could be seen in all directions and the air was full of smoke. After the fire had burned out, the operation of "logging" began. The trunks of the trees were chopped into lengths convenient to handle. Sometimes the large logs were cut by "niggering off." A small log was laid across the large one at the point where it was to be cut in two, and set on fire at the point of intersection. As the small log was consumed it was shoved along so as to keep a fire at the one point, and in time the largest trunks were divided. Oxen hauled the logs and they were rolled together and piled high by the strong arms of the pioneers. The crevices were filled with smaller chunks, until the heap was as compact as

it could be made. The fire brand was applied and in a short time the great heap would be nearly consumed.

It was necessary, at this time, to use handspikes and poles and roll the unconsumed portions of large logs together so as to keep the fire going. After a while there would be nothing but "brands" or small pieces left. Then began the operation of "branding," which was rolling these brands together, or if the **fire had gone out, hauling them to another heap.** Sometimes the settler called his neighbors together to his "logging bee." One man was chosen for a boss and he planned the heaps and divided the men into gangs who had certain work to perform. One set of men would take care of the logs as they were brought to the heaps and rolled them together, or used skids and levers when the heap was higher than one tier of logs. The oxen were broken to know what was wanted and as soon as they were hitched to a log would start for the heap without waiting for the word of command. The driver had to look out for himself for they would hardly wait for the chain to be hooked or unhooked before they were off. The logs were blackened by the previous fire and the men soon became as black as negroes, and if a man was not black enough to suit the fancy of the rest of the company he would be held while the charcoal was applied to his face in liberal quantities. The work of logging was laborious and the men needed no tonic to increase their appetites. The "boiled dinner" of potatoes and pork was heartily enjoyed. In some cases where the land was not immediately needed for tilling, the trees were girdled and left to die. Such tracks afforded better pasture than the woods. The fire left the ground bare except for the stumps and heaps of ashes where the log heaps were burned. The ashes were carefully gathered and sold to go to the asheries where potash was made from them, or the settler made lye from them and boiled it down to "black salts" and sold it in that form. The sale of ashes or black salts was often about the only source of revenue for the pioneer, and the great "ash wagons" were as common as the "egg wagons" are at this day. Some of the ash wagons used to carry a few articles of dry goods or other goods for barter. After a piece of timber had been chopped over a dense growth of "fireweeds" sprang up and grew to the height of six or eight feet. The seeds of these weeds were covered with fibres like fine cotton and would blow like thistle down. There was an irritating substance about the seeds which caused sore eyes in those who worked in the "slashings."

In the fall a crop of wheat was sown. The seed was covered by a clumsy "A" drag made of three poles and nine heavy teeth. This implement was drawn by a yoke of oxen or a team of horses and went bounding over the stumps and roots, endangering the limbs of the driver if he did not keep his distance. Much of the wheat would be left uncovered and great flocks of wild pigeons and wild turkeys would feast on it. Notwithstanding these drawbacks large crops were the rule.

Homer's descriptionn of the sounds of the forest would aptly describe the sounds during the days mentioned above:

"Loud sounds the axe, redoubling strokes on strokes,
On all sides 'round, the forest hurls her oaks

Headlong. Deep echoing groans the thickets brown:
Then rattling, crackling, crashing, thunder down."

Gen. Franklin Sawyer says: "Such scenes were the order of the day. Everywhere the woods resounded with the stroke of the axe. The old pioneer 'let in the daylight,' built his cabin, garnished its walls with dried pumpkin and venison, danced on his puncheon floor in his moccasins or with bare feet, got jolly over an ox sleigh ride, went to church at the toot of a dinner horn and knew and loved his neighbors from one end of the county to the other." In clearing off a piece of land enough oak or black walnut trees would be saved to make rails for fencing it. Cattle and hogs could be kept out, but raccoon, woodchucks, squirrels, deer and turkeys could not be kept out and they took heavy tribute from the growing crop.

The wheat was cut with a sickle or cradle, raked by hand, threshed with a flail and winnowed by hand. A winnow was made like a basket, only shallow, perhaps three feet in diameter, with a handle at each side. The mingled chaff and grain was put into this and was tossed into the air, the chaff being blown away and the grain caught again. By repeating this several times the grain was left quite clean. A windy day was necessary for the best success at the work. After the country was cleared more and larger quantities of wheat were raised, the flail was too slow for threshing and machines were invented to do the work. The first ones used in the Firelands were made at Monroeville in 1834. Fanning mills came into use before this time. Wheat raising grew to be a great industry in this part of the state and Milan was the principal market. The grain was hauled for fifty, sixty or even more miles, and no town near had a larger trade or brighter prospects than Milan until the advent of railroads changed the scene.

Frequently the first crop of corn would be planted by striking an axe into the ground and dropping the seed into the opening and covering it with the foot. The ground was so full of roots that no effort was made to till the crop beyond chopping out the fireweeds and other weeds and sprouts from the tree roots. The native fertility of this virgin soil was such that a good crop was assured, even by this rude method of cultivation. Pumpkins, squashes and melons grew luxuriantly in the new soil and were a very welcome addition to the bill of fare of the pioneer and his growing children.

The pioneer had to contend with many difficulties in the way of wild animals. Bears and wolves were eager to taste of his sheep, hogs and calves. The sheep had to be penned up every night to keep them out of reach of wolves which were their special enemies. The wolves were shy and hard to shoot, but could often be caught in "wolf pens." These were built of rails or poles laid up so as to slope inward at the top and so high that a wolf could not jump over, but could easily clamber up from the outside, but could not escape when inside. A sheep or two was put inside the pen for bait. After a wolf was inside he would not touch a sheep unless he knew he could get out again, and the sheep was left unharmed except for the fright. The great grey wolves were arrant cowards in the daylight and when alone, but were dangerous to meet when roaming the forest in packs of twenty or thirty. More than one belated traveler has been obliged to rely on his speed for safety or has been obliged to climb a convenient tree and remain until daylight drove

them to their lair in some dense swamp, or help came otherwise. Many stories are told of races with wolves, and some of them have a ludicrous side. One man relates a tale of being pursued by a pack of wolves and climbing a tree for safety and sitting on a limb all night, while kept awake by their howling. At break of day, when they had left him, he put down his feet preparatory for a descent of the tree and was thoroughly disgusted with himself when he discovered that in his fright he had not progressed upward when climbing and had remained all night perched on a projection of a root a couple of feet from the ground. The howling of a wolf was a most unearthly sound. One man says that it was like the discord produced by a brass band when each player makes the most discordant sounds possible. Multiply that by the number of animals in the pack and you have an idea of what it sounds like. There used to be a bounty of several dollars on each wolf scalp and many a pioneer has felt rich when he was lucky enough to kill a wolf and get the bounty to pay his taxes. The last wolf in this county was killed about 1844 or '45. William Stiles says that the last wolf heard of in this vicinity crossed the Stiles mill dam at the present village of West Clarksfield and went into the "Buckley swamp" in the northeast part of Hartland township. His tracks were seen in the snow at different places between here and Medina county. A hunt was organized and the swamp surrounded by some five hundred men. The wolf was not within the inner line of men, but attempted to get back into the swamp when he heard the noise made by another line outside. He attempted to come through near where William and Samuel Stiles were posted. A well known hunter from Townsend by the name of Mingus saw him and brought him down at the first shot. He was a very large animal, but very thin. After the wolf was killed the most of the men went to Minor's tavern and had a celebration at which the crack marksmen tried their skill by shooting at a target, the prize being a gallon of whiskey. William Bissell carried Squire Wood's old flint lock rifle and secured one of the prizes.

Bears were not so plentiful, but would make a raid on the hog pen occasionally, even in daylight. Levi Barnum was once hunting cattle and treed a young bear. He shot at him and wounded him so that he fell to the ground, but was not disabled. A hot fight ensued in which the gun was broken, but the young bruin was finally killed. Mr. Barnum removed the entrails and shouldered the carcass and went home with the pieces of his gun in his hand. Some of the regular hunters caught bears in traps. One kind was a very large spring trap, like the common rat traps in shape, with a piece of log chain to hold it. Another kind of trap was a pen made of logs with a heavy door so arranged that when the bait was disturbed it would fall and the bear was shut in. Panthers, painters or catamounts, (different names for the same animal) were heard and seen occasionally. Deer were plenty and were a convenient source of food and raiment for the pioneers. Fresh venison was worth four cents a pound, salt venison eight cents and dried vension a shilling. Venison hams were worth twenty-five cents each. Deer skins were worth about two dollars and a half each.

Deer licks were places where some salty substance was in the soil and the deer would go there and lick it. These licks were favorite places for erecting "deer blinds" of bushes, from which the hunter could easily get a shot. Rattlesnakes were numerous, but we believe only one death has occurred in this township from the bite of one. The snakes had a den in the rocks on the bank of Vermillion river



LAST LOG HOUSE IN CLARKSFIELD



BARRETT CHAPEL AND SCHOOLHOUSE, CLARKSFIELD

a short distance north of the Methodist church at the "Hollow," to which they retreated when cold weather came. In April, 1819, before the snakes had emerged from their winter quarters the settlers turned out with bars and picks and proceeded to unearth the reptiles. Stones were overturned and the snakes killed until they had a pile of more than sixty of the bodies. One opening could not be followed, so it was plugged. Years afterward a quarry was opened at that place and the skeletons of scores of snakes were found. This raid greatly reduced the number of the pests, but did not exterminate them entirely. Various entries in Captain Husted's account book show that the men who took part in this raid were supplied with that popular antidote for snake bite, "Spiritus Frumenti."

The tracks of otters were sometimes seen, but these animals were so wary that they were rarely seen or captured. Beavers, wildcats and porcupines were found, as well as the wild animals of the present day. Wild turkeys were very numerous and were shot and trapped. The traps were pens made of poles or rails, covered over the top. Trenches were dug under the bottom poles, so that turkeys could creep under. A lot of corn or wheat was scattered in the pen and trails of the bait laid in different directions through the woods. When the turkeys found the bait they would be led to the pen and would follow the line of bait into the pen, through the trenches. After the bait in the pen was eaten or something alarmed them they would raise their heads and try to get out of the trap, but did not know enough to look down and creep out the way they went in. Sometimes eight or ten would be taken at once. The wild turkey disappeared from this section about thirty years ago.

Owls were numerous and their hooting would frighten a "greenhorn." This parody is quite appropriate for the times:

"Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber,
Wolves and panthers guard thy bed;
Bats and screech owls without number
Flit and scream around thy head!"

Cows were allowed to run in the woods and found plenty to eat in the summer in the way of coarse marsh grass, young shoots of trees, leeks, etc. Sometimes the scanty supply of hay or cornstalks provided for winter use would be exhausted before spring and the cattle would be obliged to browse the twigs of trees and bushes, which would be cut for the purpose. To assist in finding the cows in the woods bells were hung on their necks. These were made by the local blacksmiths and gave forth tones which were far from musical, although far-reaching, and each one would have some peculiarity of tone which distinguished it to the ear of the boy or girl who was sent to bring the cows home for the night.

Hogs were frequently turned out in the woods in the fall to fatten upon the acorns and other kinds of "mast." They became quite wild and could be secured only by shooting. Many a quarrel and law suit between neighbors has been caused by two men laying claim to the same hog. Cattle, horses, hogs and sheep often strayed away and it was hard to track them through the dense woods. The township records contain many notices of strays being taken up and advertised. If no owner appeared the strays were sold and the finder received pay for his trouble and the balance went into the township treasury. For the purpose of identifying stock each man in the township had the privilege of having his mark or brand re-

corded in the township record, so as to prevent two men claiming the same mark. The marks were made by cutting the ears of stock in various ingenious ways, such as "holes," "swallow forks," "crops," "half pennies," "slopes," "spades," "slits," "nitches," etc.

In the early times the settlers suffered much from the loss of cows and oxen by the "bloody murrain." It was a grievous loss when one of the yoke of oxen lay down and died.

The earliest settlers on the Firelands were obliged to subsist almost entirely upon wild meat until a crop of vegetables could be grown. If the settler came early enough to get a little patch of ground cleared in time to plant he could have some the first season. The meat diet was not a good one and did not satisfy hunger. Wild leeks came up in early spring in the woods and were eagerly eaten by the pioneers for they made a small change in the diet of corn bread and meat, but the breath of the eaters! It "smelled to heaven." The children, especially, narrowly watched the growth of the potato tops, pumpkin and squash vines and blades of corn, hoping from day to day to get something to answer the place of meat. How delicious was the taste of the first young potatoes! What a jubilee they had when they were permitted to pull roasting ears. Still more so when the corn was hard enough to be grated and made into johnny cake. The family then became healthy and vigorous and contented with the situation, poor as it might be. They suffered much inconvenience from the absence of mills to grind their corn and wheat. They used to go long distances to Cold Creek or Richland county. When the corn was not fully ripe it could be shaved off with a plane, but when ripe and hard it must be ground or pounded in some way. Some men had hand mills, but more of them used the mortar and pestle or a tin grater. The mortar was a hard wood stump with a cavity in the top made by boring holes and burning, then scraping the surface smooth. The pestle was a log of wood, perhaps with an iron wedge, driven into the lower end, suspended from a limb of a tree, or a spring pole or an arrangement like a well sweep. The grain was put into the mortar and pounded until fine enough. The man or boy who operated this primitive mill truly "earned his bread by the sweat of his brow." Sometimes the corn was converted into samp or hominy which made a very palatable dish. Wheat was sometimes boiled whole. The most primitive way of preparing food was to take some corn meal, mix it with water to make a batter, spread it on a chip and set it before the fire to bake. In addition to corn bread, venison, turkey, squirrel, raccoon, bear or hog meat was eaten. The ravenous appetites of growing children, tired wood choppers and hunters supplied the sauce to make this rude meal a feast. When milk could be obtained a dish of mush and milk made a healthful and nutritious diet. Sugar could be obtained from the maple trees. Salt was scarce and high, and a dollar and a quarter a peck has been paid for it. "Store tea" was too expensive for the pioneer, so he used blackberry leaves, sassafras or spicebush bark, or parched corn. On special occasions, such as weddings, raisings, logging bees and the like, whisky was supplied. Captain Husted once went ten miles after a barrel of pork, but when it was opened it was found to be too lean to fry itself. A deputation of neighbors was sent to the lake after catfish, and that remedied the difficulty to a certain extent.

The first section of this township was not settled as early as the other portions and the settlers lived in a primitive way as late as 1841, and we may judge from the

way they lived as to the customs of the first settlers in the rest of the town. There are people living who tell us that they lived on corn and buckwheat, with no wheat flour. Fat pork swimming in its own grease was the meat. For a Christmas dinner wild turkey roasted before the fire place and stuffed with buckwheat pancakes, wild honey, sauce made from wild crab apples or plums, and tea made from blackberry leaves was a menu good enough for the best. One lady says that she passed through Norwalk in 1818, at the time the first court held there was in session. The lawyers and others put up at David Underhill's. They had for supper wild crabapples stewed, corn cakes, wild honey and crabapple pie. Seth Jennings of Milan said that in 1819 a grand Thanksgiving dinner consisted of roasted turkey, venison, pork and other meats, baked Indian pudding, pumpkin and first rate mince pies. The latter were made without wine, cider, sugar or molasses, apples or beef. For sweetening pumpkins were boiled down to a syrup, for apples cranberries and pumpkins were used, and for beef, venison.

When the clothing brought here by the pioneer was used up it had to be renewed in some way. After the land had been cleared long enough a crop of flax was raised and garments were made of flax and wool. The flax was rotted, broken, swingled, hetcheled, spun, woven and made into garments by the settler's own family, perhaps although not every woman had a loom or could weave, but she need not go out of the neighborhood to get her weaving done. The garments made from this homespun linen or tow were durable, but not fine. The long fibres obtained by hetcheling was linen, and could be spun into finer yarn. It was woven with wool and called "linsey woolsey." It could be colored with butternut bark, or similar dye stuffs, and woven in checks or stripes, according to the fancy of the weaver. This was made into shirts and dresses, bed clothing, etc. The short fibres which were combed out by the hetchel made tow which was spun into coarse yarn for coats, vests, pants and coarse cloth and twisted into cords and ropes for domestic use.

The very earliest settlers used deer skin for pants and coat. It was well suited for rough usage, but had a fashion of stretching marvelously when wet. If the wearer sat before the fire and allowed the pantaloons to dry upon him he had no easy task to get out of them at bedtime, for they were hard and stiff when dried after being soaked. They would shrink back to their former size or a little smaller. A man who did not understand this properly once went to Norwalk at the time two Indians were hung there. He traveled through the bushes and swamps on his way there and got his trousers wet. When they first began to hang down to his heels he cut off a piece of the legs instead of rolling them up. After a while he cut off another piece. When he arrived at Norwalk the sun was shining hot and it was not long until his pants were up to his knees and he attracted almost as much attention as the Indians. When the pants were wet by the snow in winter and dried it required a good degree of resolution to crawl out from the bed in some loft where the floor was covered with an inch or so of snow and stick one's legs into a pair of these garments, which were like stove pipes, and it also required no little skill to get into them or bend after they were once on. It is related of one of the earliest settlers in this county that his old buckskin trousers were beginning to show signs of passing away. He had a deer skin which would do for one leg, but the deer which was to

supply the other leg was still running in the woods. He and a neighbor started out to find a deer, and as they were traveling through the woods they came upon a deer which had just fallen from wounds received from other hands. Our hero jumped, slapped his hands, and shouted: "Fortune favors the brave! I shall have a pair of breeches yet!" The tannery was an institution which followed not far behind the first settlers. Sometimes the tanner followed the trade of cobbler as well. The shoemaker used to take his kit of tools with him from one house to another, wherever his services were required, and make up and mend the supply of shoes for the winter. This was called "whippin' the cat." Boots and shoes were made to order over home made lasts. They did not have high heels and the distinction between toothpick toe, coin toe or round toe was not thought of. The leather was neither kangaroo, kid, enamel calf nor pebble goat, but plain cowhide or calfskin. Buckskin moccasins and "shoe packs" were worn to some extent. Rubber boots or overshoes were unknown.

The flood of light from the fireplace in the winter evenings made the room light enough for most purposes, but tallow candles were generally used to read by. One man made tallow candles for his own use by melting deer fat in a tea kettle cover and pouring it over a twisted piece of muslin with a spoon. They were not handsome, but served to give light for him to attend an evening school. Sometimes a kind of lamp like the illustration was used. It was suspended by driving the sharp end of the pointed iron into a log of the wall. Lard or bear grease was the oil and a piece of rag, the wick. A "flip ding" or "slut" was a lamp made out of any kind of dish filled with lard with a piece of twisted rag in it. These lamps gave a dim light and furnished a cloud of smoke. Friction matches were unknown. Fire was obtained from coals on the hearth or by means of "tinder boxes." These were small iron boxes with some pieces of tinder (made by burning a piece of linen rag to charcoal) or punk, (a substance found in decayed timber). A piece of steel was struck across the sharp edge of a flint stone and the spark fell upon the tinder or punk. This held the fire and a blaze was kindled from this by means of some light shavings or sulphur matches (made by dipping bits of wood in melted sulphur). If the settler neglected his tinder box and the fire on the hearth was allowed to go out a boy was sent to the nearest neighbor's to "borrow fire," and carried home a burning brand between two pieces of bark.

Clocks and watches were too expensive for universal use. On clear days the housewife could tell the time of day by a mark on the floor, called the "moon mark," where the shadow of the door post reached at noon.

The New England pioneers of the Firelands were well aware of the advantages of educational privileges and as soon as a few families had settled conveniently near each other a school was established, perhaps in one of the houses at first, until a school house could be erected. A young lady, daughter of one of the families was, perhaps, the teacher. After a time a log school house would be built. The seats were puncheons or slabs from some sawmill, with the flat side up and pegs inserted into auger holes for the legs. The desks were made of wide whitewood boards fastened to arms driven into holes bored into the wall. The pupil could rest his back by leaning against the edge of the desk. Not

many branches were taught, the "three R's" being considered about the only essentials. The teacher "boarded 'round," spending as many nights at each place as the ratio of pupils sent from that place required. Frequently the teacher hardly knew where to go for the inhabitants of the district might not all be ready to board him until they had butchered or done something else which would answer for an excuse. The wages of a lady teacher were from seventy-five cents to a dollar and a quarter a week and "found."

The settlers did not possess many books and could not obtain newspapers until some years after the settlement was made. At first they had to go long distances after mail, but post offices were established at an early day. It cost twenty-five cents to *receive* a letter from New York or New England, and a letter had often to lie in the office some time until the pioneer could obtain the money in some way to pay the postage.

Many of the early settlers were pious people and soon became acquainted with neighbors of like minds. They would meet at each other's houses on Sunday for religious exercises. One of the number would read a sermon, hymns would be sung and one or more of them could lead in prayer. Occasionally a pioneer missionary like Alvin Coe, Harry O. Sheldon, Father Gurley or David Marks would preach a sermon, and if the house was not large enough to hold the congregation a log barn would be used. As the community increased in numbers a church society would be organized and supplied by a pastor from some neighboring settlement, perhaps. Sooner or later a church would be erected under great difficulties and with many self sacrifices on the part of the members. A perusal of the "Memoirs of Rev. David Marks" gives one some idea of the hardships and dangers which some of the pioneer preachers endured while engaged in the labors to which they thought they were called. In June, 1882, he left Black Rock, N. Y., on a schooner on his way to Portland, now Sandusky. The captain very ungenerously landed him with some others on the peninsula, six miles from Portland, after taking his last cent to pay his passage. Besides the lighthouse keeper there were no inhabitants near there. Marks had eaten but one meal in the last forty hours and the keeper was nearly out of provisions, so they lay down supperless. After the men who landed with Marks had fallen asleep, the keeper, remembering the "poor boy that had come far from a father's house to preach the gospel," gave him a cracker and a half pint of milk. In the morning one of the men killed a fawn and their hunger was appeased. After waiting a day or two and seeing no prospect of getting away soon, Marks and one of the men calked an old skiff which they found in some drift wood and started for Portland. They kept afloat for some time by bailing out the water with a shoe, but were forced to return and were nearly swamped by the waves. The next day they were so fortunate as to get a ride on a boat across to Cedar Point. They walked nine miles along the beach before they came to a house. Marks walked to Milan and there found friends. He was only sixteen years of age at this time, but no difficulties dampened his ardor for the work in which he had embarked.

When the Northwest Territory was organized by the government of the United States slavery was forbidden, but when the constitution of the new state of Ohio was adopted the friends of slavery who had come from the slave states of New

Jersey, Virginia, Maryland and Kentucky and settled mostly in the southern portion of the state, attempted to insert a clause allowing a limited form of slavery, Judge Ephraim Cutler, of Marietta, a native of New England, turned the scale in favor of freedom, but the victory was barely won by one vote. Thus the influence of New England was felt in this question at an early day. For a long time there was a large party in the state favorable to slavery, and their influence was felt in legislation. The colored people were not allowed to testify in courts of law, nor to vote. Separate schools were provided for colored children, and this law, the last one of the so-called "Black Laws" left on our statute books, was repealed only ten years ago, or so, although it had been a dead letter for years. Many years ago the enemies of slavery began to aid the slave to escape from his master. These anti-slavery sympathizers had a system of communication and transportation known as the "Grapevine Telegraph" and "Underground Railroad," by means of which hundreds of slaves were assisted on their way to Canada and freedom. Stations on this road were the homes of the more daring of the abolitionists, a few miles apart, and the runaways were secretly conveyed from one station to the next. Some were captured and returned to bondage, but the most who were able to reach the Western Reserve, where their enemies were fewer, were successful in reaching safety. The laws of the United States made it a crime to assist a slave to escape or to refuse to help capture one when called upon to do so by the owner or officer in pursuit of him. Nevertheless hundreds of men in the Firelands stood ready to assist the slave at the risk of person and property. Rush R. Sloane and Frank D. Parish, of Sandusky, were each heavily fined at one time for defending the rights in court of escaping slaves, but they were taken to Cincinnati, where the pro-slavery sentiment was stronger than at Sandusky. When the call for volunteers came in 1861 and later the Firelands furnished plenty of brave soldiers.

The Firelands were not behind the rest of the country in the projection of railroads, and two of the earliest roads in the state, the Mad River & Lake Erie, and Monroeville & Sandusky, which were commenced about 1835, ran from Sandusky. Some of the most influential men in the building of the Cleveland, Norwalk & Toledo road, now the Lake Shore, lived at Norwalk. Clarksfield's first railroad will be described later.

When the country was new fever and ague was common. The chills or "shakes" were very severe, lasting sometimes for two hours, shaking patient, bedstead and floor. After the chill was over the patient fell into a deep slumber, but when the fever came on his sufferings were increased and he was tormented by a burning thirst. In some forms the chill would not return until the second day afterward and the patient could work some on the well day. In other cases the chills occurred every day. This condition lasted week after week and month after month, perhaps, unless the patient succumbed sooner. The patients usually recovered, but frequently a whole family would be down sick at the same time and there would be scarcely enough well persons in a neighborhood to care for the sick. Tansy was supposed to be something of an antidote for the ague, and the occasional beds of tansy which are still to be seen were planted for that purpose. It was used in the form of bitters, made with whisky. It was a common practice to offer a neighbor, when he made a call, a glass of "tansy bitters," which might be no

more than a tumbler of whiskey with a sprig of tansy in it, and some men got the reputation of being wonderfully afraid of the ague, judging by the amount of the antidote they consumed. They ran the risk of the "snakes" to avoid the "shakes!"

Along in the 30's another disease was prevalent. This was called, "milk sickness." The symptoms were vomiting, high fever and rapid and extreme prostration. It was supposed to be caused by drinking milk from cows which had eaten some poisonous weed. Such sickness, as well as the frequent accidents from falling trees and limbs, slipping logs, etc., required the services of the physician and we find the pioneer doctors not far behind the first settlers in a community. Their path was not one of roses and they had to travel long distances through the woods on foot or horseback, fording streams, being chased by wolves, getting lost, etc. Their pay was scanty, but by buying a piece of timber land and getting it cleared and carrying on farming they eked out a living and brought up their families respectably.

The first settlers were sometimes obliged to go a long ways to a store, but different men would bring a little stock of goods with them from the east, and it would not be long before there would be a store in the community. The goods would be brought to Huron by boat or by way of Pittsburg overland to the Firelands by wagon.

Saw mills and grist mills were built along the streams as soon as there was a settlement large enough to support them, and they did quite a business while the water lasted. The forests abounded with magnificent oak, whitewood and black walnut trees, but the cost of hauling the lumber to market with ox teams over the miserable roads of the times left so small a margin for the labor that a large proportion of such timber was burned to get it out of the way. The early settler had no easy-riding spring carriage for a conveyance, but used a lumber wagon with chairs for seats, or maybe he hung a hickory pole on each side of the inside of the wagon box by hooks, and laid board seats on these. These "took off the sharp edge" of the jolting over corduroy roads. In many instances there would be no roads cut out between the houses of the settlers and the best way to carry the women and children on a visit to a neighbor's was to load the family on a sled, hitch the oxen on and make a "bee line" through the forest, not forgetting to carry an ax to cut away the bushes and tree tops, if any were in the way. Many used to go to mill or to the store in this way. Sometimes the vehicle was a stone boat with chairs for seats. When a young gallant took his best girl out for a ride he would get a horse with saddle or pillion. The lady sat behind on the pillion and embraced the young man to prevent her falling off, and the rougher the road the tighter she hugged. As the roads became drained and settled spring wagons were made and in time came the modern light carriages.

People frequently became lost in the dense forest, if darkness overtook them where the only path was the line of blazed trees. The writer's father and aunt once were obliged to lie in the woods all night on account of being lost.

In the earlier days, before county infirmaries were built, each township was obliged to care for its own paupers. One of the duties of the trustees was to "sell the paupers," that is, to let to the lowest bidder the contract for boarding each pauper for the year. Very often the man who bid off a pauper made up by scanty

food and clothing for the low price which he received for the board, and the treatment of the unfortunate ones was much less humane than by the modern methods. Whenever a person came to live in a township and was likely to become a township charge, either through sickness, intemperance, or other reason, the overseers of the poor would "warn him out of town," so that the town from whence he came would become responsible for any help furnished him in case he required public aid. The citizens were not so hard hearted as the township records would indicate, and the persons warned did not always become paupers.

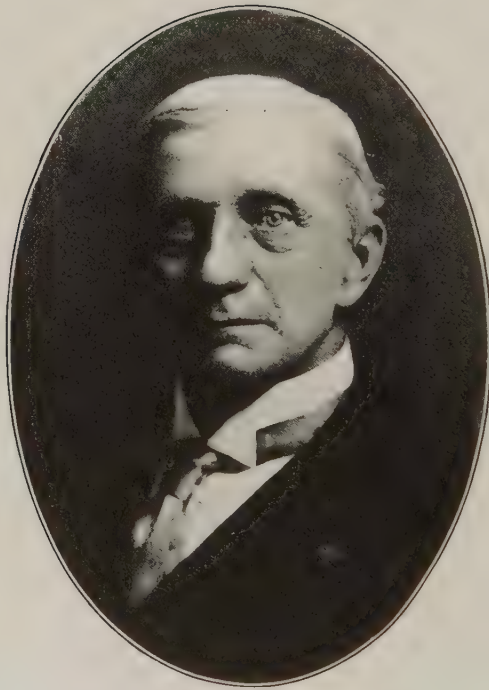
NORWALK—ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

(FROM SELECTION READ BY HON. C. H. GALLUP, AT A MEETING OF THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.)

"Two hundred years ago the settlement of Norwalk, Connecticut was begun. At a session of the General Court of the Colony of Connecticut, 26th June, 1650, Nathaniel Ely and Richard Olmstead in behalf of themselves and other inhabitants of Hartford, desired the leave and approbation of the Court for planting of Norwaake; to whom an answer was returned in substance as follows: "That the Court could not but approve of the endeavors of men for the further improvement of the wilderness, by the beginning and carrying on of new plantations in an orderly way; and leaving the consideration of the just grounds of the proceedings of the petitioners to its proper place, did manifest their willingness to promote their design by all due encouragement, in case their way for such an undertaking were found clear and good; and provided the numbers and quality of those that engage therein appear to be such as may rationally carry on the work to the advantage of the public welfare and peace; that they may make preparations and provisions for their own defence and safety, that the country may not be exposed to unnecessary trouble and danger in these hazardous times; that the divisions of lands there to such as shall inhabit, be made by just rules and with the approbation of a committee appointed for that end by this Court or to be rectified by the Court in case of aberrations, and that they attend a due payment of their proportions in all public charges, with a ready observation of the other wholesome orders of the country."

This is the first mention of Norwalk in the ancient records of the Colony.

Though, in itself, of small moment, yet, as the origin of our name has been called in question by respectable authority, and an error in regard to it been spread through standard books, it may be worth while to inquire whence the name? Barber, in his Historical Collections, says, that according to tradition, "the name is derived from the one-day's *North-walk*, that limited the northern extent of the purchase from the Indians." Whence he learned the tradition, we know not; but that it is erroneous, if not fabulous, we do know. (1) The original deeds, in 1640, give the name Norwalke, as then designating the river, and there is the same evidence that that was the original Indian name, as that *Saukatuk* and *Rooton* were. (2) All the settlements along the coast, and in the interior, were first called by their Indian names, and were changed only for specified reasons. Thus, Quinnepiack was changed for New Haven; Cupheag and Puquannock for Stratford; Uncowa for Fairfield, and Rippowams for Stam-

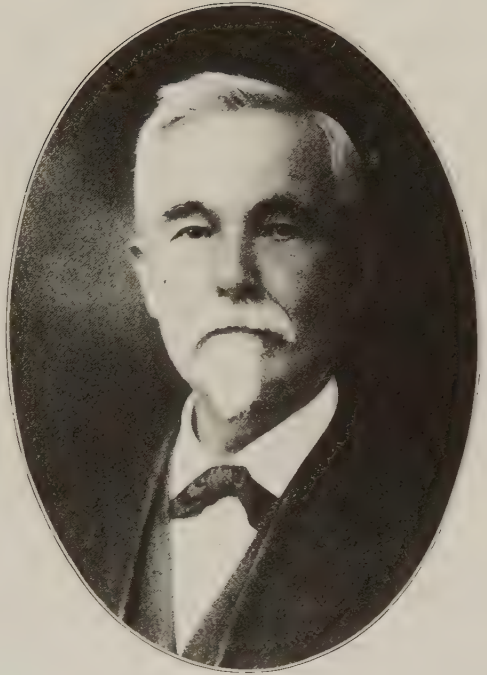


A. J. BAUGHMAN

One of the Norwalk Centennial Commissioners



PROF. B. F. PRINCE



C. H. GALLUP

Norwalk Centennial Commissioners

ford. But *Norwalk* was never changed. (3) But, thirdly, the fancy that *Norwalk* is an abbreviation of *Northwalk*, is dissipated the moment you open the original Colony Records. In those records, from 1636 to 1665, the name is often used, and is spelt in at least eleven different ways. Thus, in the first instance where the word occurs, the orthography is,

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| 1. Norwaake, Col. Rec., p. 210, 1650. | 7. Nor-woake, Col. Rec., p. 265, — |
| 2. Nor-wauke, Col. Rec., p. 224, 1651. | 8. Norr-wake, Col. Rec., p. 279, — |
| 3. Nor-waack, Col. Rec., p. 228, — | 9. Nor-walke, Col. Rec., p. 290, 1656. |
| 4. Nor-wack, Col. Rec., p. 242, 1653. | 10. Norwalk, Col. Rec., p. 324, 1658. |
| 5. Nor-worke, Col. Rec., p. 242, 1653. | 11. Norwake, Col. Rec., p. 418, 1663. |
| 6. Nor-wacke, Col. Rec., p. 277, 1655. | |

Thus the record dissipates the fancied tradition. Who would ever have thought of the name being derived from *North-walk*, had it been uniformly spelt, as at first, in the Colony Records? Not only is there no allusion to such a derivation, but our present orthography, *Norwalk* was not used till 1658. Subsequently to that period, there seems to have been more uniformity—the name being written *Nor-walke*, *Nor-wake*, or *Norwalk*—the latter finally prevailed. Here be it observed, that the ancient orthography was designed to express, as near as possible, the primitive pronunciation, but in process of time, was changed, to accord more fully with the English form of words.

ONE CENTURY OF NORWALK.

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRELANDS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, JULY 22, 1909, COMMEMORATING NORWALK'S
CENTENNIAL BY HON. C. H. GALLUP.

I have promised to tell a little of the history of *Norwalk* for the past hundred years. I think it is upon the program as "One Century of *Norwalk*." I am going to tell you some stories,—I will try to make it a series of stories to illustrate how *Norwalk* has been built. I have so many times told the story of the origin of the name "*Western Reserve*" that I shall not tell it here again. I have so often told the origin of the name "*Firelands*" that it is not necessary to repeat it today, but I am going to tell you just how our ancestors built up this city and township in the last hundred years.

To commence with, I want to tell you that there were three wolves that immortalized themselves at the commencement of this hundred years. You have all read the story of the settlement of the Comstock family in *Norwalk*, the first family to come into the township in 1809 and the building of their house. They built near Milan. It wasn't Milan then; it was a Moravian Indian settlement. They had a mission house there. They gave the use of that mission house to these first settlers to occupy until they should complete their own house. One day they had put their dinner to cooking,—pork and beans, and left to do some clearing. When they returned for their dinner and came in sight of the house, they saw three wolves scampering away, and when they got to their dinner pot, it was empty. Now those three wolves immortalized themselves by that failure to stop the start of *Norwalk*. This was in 1809.

Settlers came in very slowly. Two or three families came up to 1812. In 1815 two Connecticut Yankees came on to attend court at Avery, and that is a place now where there is no habitation or sign of life except a hill and grass and trees. There are no buildings where the county seat was in those days. Incorrectly it has been called Wheatsboro. That was a mistake. Avery was the township now known as Milan. Now these Connecticut Yankees came on there and thought they saw an opportunity. They had traveled through here land hunting and they had seen the sand ridge. They had fallen in love with it. They got their heads together and said, "Well now, we will make a land speculation. We will take the county seat away from here and up to the sand ridge." Elisha Whittlesey, Platt Benedict, Frederic Falley, three of them, entered into a written agreement to that effect. They sent Platt Benedict on to Connecticut on horse back. He rode eleven days and the land that Norwalk was built on was bought for about one dollar and twelve cents an acre. They got an act through the legislature for the appointment of a commission to locate the county seat. Huron embraced Huron and Erie then. I don't know what manipulation took place, but they got the report of the committee. The act authorizing the change of the county seat required that they should indemnify the owners of property at Avery for any damage they might suffer by the removal of the county seat. Elisha Whittlesey gave a bond to indemnify those people for all losses they might suffer as might be determined by a commission. The commission was appointed and acted. They awarded damages amounting to about three thousand four hundred and forty dollars. Elisha Whittlesey gave a bond to make that good. Elisha Whittlesey in behalf of the four parties (Falley having surrendered his interest to E. Moss White and Mathew B. Whittlesey) who purchased the property here took title in his own name as trustee for himself and the rest. He said to a certain number of the people of Norwalk, "If you will take off from my shoulders the responsibility of my bond to those Avery people, I will surrender my interest in the town plat of Norwalk" and five men stepped up and assumed that liability. I want to give their names; David Underhill. Peter Tice, Levi Cole, Platt Benedict and Daniel Tilden. They obligated themselves in the sum of eight thousand dollars to make good any damage that might occur. For five men to assume an obligation of eight thousand dollars away back there in 1815 or '16 was equal to men of today assuming hundreds of thousands of dollars. They were poor people, men who had come to hew out a home in the wilderness. They took their courage in their hands and signed the bond. That is the kind of spirit that builds towns. That is the kind of spirit built up at that time that has never died from that day to this in Norwalk.

In 1817 Platt Benedict came on with his family and with him the family of Luke Keeler. They were the joint settlers of the city of Norwalk. The city hasn't reached its century mark yet. We are celebrating the Norwalk Township centennial. These two families came, one settling just east of the Court House, the other building his home way out east on the sand ridge, so that Platt Benedict was really the first settler of the city of Norwalk.

When a few families had become settlers here, they bethought themselves of the institutions of their old home. They wanted schools; they wanted churches. A few of them gathered themselves together and organized a church, and this is the

paper that records that organization. It is a quaint old paper and I am going to read you a little from it.

“Norwalk, Huron County, Ohio, Jan. 20, 1821.

At a meeting of a number of persons residing in this vicinity, Platt Benedict was elected clerk of the meeting, and the following gentlemen enrolled themselves as members or friends of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America; Platt Benedict, John Keeler, Luke Keeler, John Boalt, Amos Woodward, Samuel Sparrow, William Gardiner, Asa Sanford, Ami Keeler, Henry Hulbert, William Woodward, E. Lane, Gurdon Woodward, William Gallup, Ezra Sprague, D. Gibbs, Enos Gilbert and Moses Sowers.”

Those men associated themselves together to organize their church. They did organize it and soon afterward had their first baptism. Here is a record of that.

“On Sunday, Jan. 21, 1821, the ordinance of baptism was administered to the following persons by the Rev. Roger Searles: Louise Williams, aged three years; Theodore Williams, aged one year, children of James Williams. Sponsors, James Williams, E. Lane. William Gallup, one year. Sponsors, William Gallup, Sarah Gallup. Ebenezer Shaw Lane, one year. Sponsors, E. Lane, Frances Ann Lane, James Williams.

This is the record of the first old church that was started here for the benefit of those settlers who had come in and who were living here with the woods all around them. Now and then the nights were made hideous by the drunken revels of the Indians who came in and got the white men's fire water, and they were always apprehensive of the results of those drunken revels. They were living in log houses; their windows were not glass. Theirs was the spirit that builds towns. They came in here with the intention of building a town and a home, but they did not foresee what was to take place. They could not foresee that magnificent display that took place on our streets yesterday. I wish they could.

They had to have paper. How were they going to get it? They had to have flour and things of that kind. When they first came here, they had to carry their grain way to the Black River on horse back. They had to carry it in bags and bring it back on horse back. They started a mill here. Henry Buckingham, Platt Benedict and a few others started a paper mill and a grist mill. I want to tell you what they said about it way back in that day. Platt Benedict in writing to Elisha Whittlesey under date of August 25th, 1832, said to him, “I have taken possession of the Henry farm and am improving it, have been offered twelve dollars an acre cash in hand which I refused, and the steam mill which was thought so foolish and visionary is the sole cause. The mill does a good business, making seventy to eighty reams and grinding about a thousand bushels of corn a week.” That paper mill was started in 1831, and run by an engine built here by Daniel Watrous, our pioneer machinist.

This little book is a pioneer book. It was given to the Firelands Historical Society April 6th, 1859, by Hon. Frederick Wickham, the father of Judge Wickham, and long editor of the Norwalk Reflector. This is a rare publication. I don't know of another copy in existence. It is the “Ohio and Michigan Register and Immigrant's Guide.” This was published by J. W. Scott, Florence, Huron county, Ohio, in 1832. The spirit of commerce was abroad in the land in those days. I want to refer you to these two ads:

"Norwalk Manufacturing Co., paper makers," etc.

"Printed by S. Preston & Co., Norwalk, Huron county, Ohio." The whole thing is a product of Norwalk way back there in 1832.

We can't make paper here today. But we have the physical record of that old paper mill. A mile or so up Norwalk Creek they built a dam and from that dam they ran a mill race all the way down to town to the mill. That stood over on the slope of Woodlawn avenue, on the west side of that avenue, about thirty or forty rods south from Main street. They ran the water down into a well which they built. I filled that well up myself about twenty-five years ago. There are parts of the old race still to be seen, showing the enterprise of those days. About half way down from the dam to the paper mill a saw mill was built and run by water from that mill race. The tail race from that saw mill is yet plainly in evidence just south of East Elm street bridge. That spirit of enterprise has always stayed here. The pioneers started it here and nobody has ever been able to take it away from us.

In 1851 Norwalk was nothing but a side show to Milan. Milan had a canal which they had built from Milan down to the deep water of the Huron river, about eight miles to the lake, and up and down that canal used to go the commerce that supplied the territory from here south as far as Columbus. The grain and farm products of all that territory were carried to Milan and marketed in two, four, six and eight horse wagons, the larger ones called "Pennsylvania Schooners." The dry goods, groceries, etc., purchased in New York city by our merchants came back by the Erie canal and lake to Milan. I have seen the streets of Norwalk filled with those teams at night, camped from one end to the other. Norwalk was simply a side show. But in 1851 Milan was offered the opportunity to have a railroad through from Cleveland to Toledo. They didn't want a railroad. Their canal was the main thing and nobody could take that away. They wouldn't give a dollar for the railroad. Norwalk voted fifty thousand dollars bonds upon itself and it then had about twelve hundred inhabitants. That is the spirit that builds towns and it has always been here. That proved a good speculation. The capitalists in the east thought they saw an opportunity and they commenced buying up the stock of this road. The directors of the road watered their stock fifty per cent and those people bought that all up at par, so that the bonds that Norwalk gave brought them back seventy-five thousand dollars. That was a pioneer road built from Cleveland to Toledo. John Gardiner, our esteemed and venerated citizen, was its first president. Charles L. Boalt was the mainspring, the moving spirit that built the road. Lewis D. Stratton sat up all night one night and all day Sunday signing the bonds that they might get away before an injunction could be gotten out. As soon as they were signed, Boalt got out of Norwalk and out of reach of an injunction. Bonds from other towns were put in his hands. With the proceeds of the sale of bonds, he bought the iron for the first road. He paid one hundred and twenty dollars a ton. It was Norwalk enterprise that did it. That spirit that chased the three wolves out down there was still here.

When these four gentlemen who planned the removal of the county seat to Norwalk laid out their plot, they dedicated four lots for public purposes; one for a court house, one for a jail, one for a meeting house and one for an academy for the promotion of the arts and sciences.

In 1854 twenty-five gentlemen of Norwalk organized themselves together under the name of the Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences. They contracted and sold the rooms that are in the old Whittlesey building by lease, ninety-nine years, a ground rent charge, and put up that old building. They have received those rents ever since. They reserved "Whittlesey Hall" and rented that and it brought in from nine to twelve hundred dollars a year rental for many years. They accumulated quite a sum of money, but every dollar of that money has gone for the public benefit of Norwalk. It has gone into the public library, into the building and upon its shelves. Not one red cent has ever stuck to the fingers of any one of the twenty-five organizers or their successors. Those twenty-five charter members constitute a roll of honor, and I am going to read them to you and I want to say that no one of them now lives, but there are twenty-five successors still living and still doing what they did, using the proceeds of the rental of that property for the advancement and welfare of their posterity and all who come hereafter. These incorporators were:

G.T. Stewart	W. L. Rose	Charles Bishop
M. R. Brailey	Louis D. Strutton	J. A. Jackman
George H. Safford	Saml. T. Worcester	Hiram Rose
E. Gray	John Tift	J. E. Morehouse
J. E. Ingersoll	S. R. Beckwith	John Cline
C. E. Newman	B. F. Roberts	George Baker
F. A. Wildman	J. A. Jones	Joseph M. Farr
O. G. Carter	N. S. C. Perkins	
Chas. B. Stickney	Edward Winthrop	

The structure that they built, the sentiment and spirit they put into its creation is as active and potent today as it was the day they formed the organization. It is going on now and it has within itself the power of self perpetuation, for every member is a member for life. When they leave Huron county or die, successors are elected to them, and based upon this our Library Association has become a protege of the Whittlesey Academy. This society has been taken up by them. The library association may go out of existence, this society may go out of existence, but the Whittlesey Academy will stay here and see that the work goes on.

We have had some queer experiences here in our time. We once had what was known as the Norwalk Barrel Company. They grew up and prospered and then died. A traveling man with a good deal of energy and life about him suggested to certain of our citizens that they should start an organ factory. Judge Wickham was one of the parties approached and he succumbed to their blandishments and became one of the incorporators of the A. B. Chase Company. They negotiated for the purchase of the Barrel Company's property. That company asked four thousand dollars for it. They offered three thousand dollars for it. No! They offered three thousand five hundred dollars. No! They offered three thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars. No! One of our citizens out upon the street just before train time met A. B. Chase with grip sack in hand, and he said, "Chase, where are you going?" "I am going to Fostoria to accept their offer." "I thought you were going to take the barrel factory." Chase said, "We won't be punished for staying in Norwalk." He then related the circumstances, that they had offered three thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars

and it had been rejected. This citizen said, "Will you take it for three thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars now?" He said, "Yes." "You shall have it." In less than two hours, two hundred and fifty dollars was raised by subscriptions "on the street." The money was taken in and paid to the Barrel Company and a receipt therefor was turned over to Mr. Chase. That settled the location of the A. B. Chase factory in Norwalk. It is one of the most beneficial institutions in the town, employing hundreds of men. You saw their display on the street yesterday, which should have taken the premium—the grandest part of the display was the two hundred and fifty men marching there, all clean cut good citizens of Norwalk, home owners, that alone entitled them to the reward.

In 1877 another problem came up for settlement, and that was the location and building of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad, and I can say to you that the work done here in Norwalk was the work that built the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad. It would never have been built if it had not been for the life, energy and nerve that went into it from Norwalk. At that time, 1877, we had a population of about four thousand, I think. Meeting after meeting was held here. Delegates from towns all along the line used to meet here. The preliminary work of raising the money to build that road was mostly done here in Norwalk. At that time we raised and paid for the building of that road seventy-two thousand dollars. That was a big load for a town of that size. Three years afterward the question of the location of the shops came up and they pinched us. We had opposition. Wellington was fighting us. Toledo, Fremont, Massillon were all bidding for the location of those shops. A committee was sent from here to New York city to try and influence Commodore Garrison who was building the road. When that committee got to New York, they called on Commodore Garrison. He said, "I am glad to meet you. I want to hear all about this." One of the committeemen said, "Is Mr. Griggs here?" "Oh, no," he said, "he won't be here until Saturday." "Well, excuse us, what we have to say we want to say in the presence of Mr. Griggs." His son said, "That's right, father." It was arranged to wait until Mr. Griggs came. He came on Saturday and the interview took place. One of the committeemen chosen as spokesman told the story that Commodore Garrison hadn't heard. He said, "You have said to Mr. Gardiner that all things being equal you will favor Norwalk. We propose to show you that as between Norwalk and the principal competitor things are not equal. Norwalk has subscribed and paid seventy-two thousand dollars for the construction of this railroad. You now ask us, we suppose, about twenty-three thousand dollars, and for that sum we have understood you would locate the shops at Norwalk. Wellington subscribed thirty thousand dollars for the construction of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Road and unbeknown to us obtained from the management of the road a reimbursement of that subscription in freight and passenger traffic certificates, and we consider that they are not in this contest with us." Commodore Garrison turned to the contractor, "Is this true, Mr. Griggs?" "Yes." "Do not let such a thing happen again." "It sha'n't." He turned to the committee, "Suppose I say to you you will have the shops if you make the subscription thirty thousand dollars, fifteen acres of land and free water." One of the committeemen said, "We can't give you free water, but we can furnish it to you at cost." "That is all right. When you can assure

me of the fulfillment of these terms, you shall have the shops." These terms were telegraphed through to Mr. Gardiner. The answer came back, "Twenty-five gentlemen have guaranteed the subscription, thirty thousand dollars." That was carried to Commodore Garrison. He said, "That settles it, you shall have the shops. Mr. Griggs, you arrange the details of this." Ten o'clock the next morning was set. Ten o'clock came. The servant at his house said, "Mr. Griggs has gone for the day." That committee camped on Mr. Griggs' door step all day. It began to rain. Finally Mr. Griggs came at seven o'clock p. m. He said, "Gentlemen, have you waited long?" "All day," they said. He said, "I have been spending the day at the grave of my wife. It is the anniversary of her death." The contract was put in black and white. That night the committee went back to Commodore Garrison's house and they were met at the door with a statement that he could not see the committee. A lady's voice came from above, "John, tell father it is those gentlemen from Ohio." Commodore Garrison came in a moment. He said, "I have got a whist party on my hands. What hotel do you stop at?" "At the Astor House." "What time do you get a train in the morning?" "At 10:20." "I will be at your hotel at ten in the morning." He was there. That contract in duplicate was read over. He signed it and the committee started for Norwalk. On the way they met S. S. Warner of Wellington coming from the train going to try and get the shops. That is what secured the shops. That is the kind of spirit that builds towns. That thirty thousand dollars was added to the seventy-two thousand dollars.

In 1901 a gentleman from Pittsburg proposed to us if we would buy five hundred city lots that they might lay out on some property, they would build a steel plant here that should employ hundreds and thousands of men. In side of two weeks, Norwalk had subscribed for every one of those five hundred lots. A hitch took place; that organization went to pieces. A year or two afterwards another organization brought the proposition to us, and we resubscribed one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars in a very few days to purchase those lots. That spirit is the spirit that built the old paper mill, that built the old church. It was still existing, and that is the spirit that builds towns.

In 1904, The Sandusky, Norwalk & Mansfield Railroad knocked at our doors and wanted one hundred thousand dollars taken of their bonds. That was a pretty heavy load at that time, especially after putting so much into those steel plant lots, that really proved a white elephant. But Mr. Gardiner in negotiation with the head of another financial institution devolved this plan and one of the financial institutions made this proposition:—"We will put in two thousand dollars, if each one of the other five banks will put in two thousand dollars and it will give to this movement a financial standing that it hasn't got now." Mr. Gardiner saw every one of the banks and they all agreed to it. That subscription of twelve thousand dollars gave it a financial credit that put it upon its feet and we have the railroad.

In 1893 Mr. McCrillis burned out in Milan, came and wanted a little help. In a little while, two thousand five hundred dollars of his bonds were subscribed for. He built his handle factory here and soon paid back the bonds, and the plant is running, one of our successful institutions.

Last year, 1908, we had a calamity. The Wheeling & Lake Erie shops we had worked for so hard and paid so high for burned down. The receiver of the Wheeling road said, "If you will give us fifty thousand dollars we will rebuild here." Inside of ten days we had raised that, but when it came to the details of agreeing upon rebuilding here, we could never fasten them down to it, and we never paid the money, but it shows the spirit was here yet.

We have a little institution here called The Auto Bug Company. They asked for a stock subscription of fifteen thousand dollars. We raised it in a little while.

I have cited these facts to show you how Norwalk has been built. I have tried to convey to you the thought that there is a spirit of brotherhood here that was implanted by the original settlers that has never left us, and until that leaves us, nobody is ever going to have a weak back in Norwalk.

There are four old gentlemen in Norwalk who have always been boosters and never kickers. They have always pushed and they have always pulled and they have always lifted and they have always been found when we wanted them. They are George M. Darling, ninety-seven years old, Charles W. Manahan, ninety-six years, John Gardiner, ninety-three years, Benjamin Nyman, eighty-nine years. Those four men have always been ready and willing to the extent of their ability to help us along.

All of those things lead me to say that nobody need worry about the future of Norwalk. So long as this spirit lives, so long will we progress. When that spirit becomes tired and lies down, then Norwalk is dying. The embodiment of that spirit is illustrated in these verses:

Trust no future, howe'er pleasant,
Let the dead past bury its dead.
Act, act in the living present,
Heart within and God o'erhead.

Let us then be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate,
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

THE NORWALK CENTENNIAL AND HOME-COMING.

The Norwalk centennial and home-coming week, July 18 to 24, was opened Sunday, July 18, by home-coming services in all the churches in the city. A sacred concert was given in the afternoon, in which all united.

Monday, July 19, was school day, with Professor J. E. Cole as chairman. At 9:30 a. m., reunion of alumni and for students of high school, Norwalk academy and Norwalk seminary, held in the high school yard, and was addressed by the Hon. L. C. Laylin. Monday afternoon was taken up by amusements of various kinds.

Large and patriotic was the crowd which was present Monday night at the entertainment held in the high school yard under the chairmanship of Rev. Arthur Dumper.



PEARL STREET LOOKING WEST, CHICAGO, OHIO

For this purpose a grand stand had been erected with seats in front sufficient to provide ample accommodations for the audience.

The program of the evening was opened with a selection by the orchestra after which Rev. Mr. Dumper in a happy speech told of the purpose of the meeting and introduced Mayor C. P. Venus who gave the address of welcome. The mayor said in part:

"It becomes my pleasant duty as Mayor of the city, in accordance with the general custom, to extend to you, as guests of Norwalk, such a welcome as seems fitting for the occasion. We feel we have a double claim on you, and you on us, not as guests and hosts alone, but as father meeting son, and brother meeting brother after years of separation."

Mayor Venus compared the home coming of former Norwalkians with the return of the Prodigal Son of scriptural times, claiming that the home coming of Norwalkians was even better in that there is no envious brother to complain at the merry making and no regret for misspent years.

"Although you have been away from this, your old home, for many years," said the mayor, "perhaps to every remote corners of the earth, yet we have known of you during all of these years, have felt the heart-glow of pride at hearing of your successes, and how well you have upheld the fame of Norwalk.

"That heart-glow is with our welcome of you back again, to hear from your lips and to read in your prosperous bearing the full measure of your successes, and to meet and greet the sturdy young sons and fair daughters you are bringing with you from your distant new homes to this your old home. The picture of the welcome coming of Santa Claus to a child, or a sister of mercy to a needy sufferer, can call up no greater response of joy than in the welcoming we have for you today.

"We have attired ourselves in our Sunday clothes to welcome you. We have matched the rich, verdant hues that nature has given this charmed home-spot with bright streamers and bunting; we have killed the fatted calf for the feasting, and provided all the diversion and entertainment to make more pleasant the all-too-brief hours of your stay in your old home; and if all we have done appeals to you as proof of the cordial, heart-felt welcoming we would give. I want you to know that it cannot express one iota of the true feeling of welcome in our hearts. Just as all of the affection of a father to a son, hallowed by the years of companionship in the old home flowed out into the welcoming home to the Prodigal Son, so a thousand tender recollections; the drawing of sacred family ties; of joys and sufferings of younger days; of familiar spots loved and treasured in the memory; incidents of childhood, too often the only heritage left us by departed friends; all these sacred associations in which we are joint owners, and the loves and friendships of those good old days of our childhood, made fonder by the years of your absence, and fanned into new life by your presence here again, are all here speaking to you from us through this welcoming we are giving you."

"Norwalk of Yesterday," the topic assigned to Hon. S. A. Wildman was ably handled by that speaker. Mr. Wildman showed an interest in his subject and a scholarship of historic lore which carried his listeners back, willy nilly,

to the days when the silent forests were tread by Indians, "single file, barefooted like dervishes of old."

"The flight of time," said Mr. Wildman, "has interested mankind from time immemorial. The ancient Greeks and other nations have written of it, and their ponderings have found a prototype in Macbeth, wherein Shakespeare pictures the three witches at the cauldron scene."

Rapidly, but with surprising detail in a speech so short, Mr. Wildman sketched the various phases of Norwalk's early history. He told of the time when the present Main street was a trail for the Delaware Indians going down into the flats to make their maple sugar.

Gradually the town became settled. First one hardy pioneer came and then another till gradually the little log hut in the wilderness of Western Reserve had grown, he declared, until today as you stand at Court House square you perhaps cannot recognize one out of a score who pass you.

Those who came found a warm welcome and that spirit has survived, the spirit which has made Norwalk the city of which you are so proud.

The oldest house in Norwalk, the speaker said, is the residence now occupied by former councilman B. A. Blume, which was built in 1816. It is a yellow painted frame dwelling and is located on Whittlesey avenue.

Glowing optimism was the keynote of the address: "Norwalk of Tomorrow," by Ed. L. Young. Mr. Young declared that Norwalk is the product of the spirit of enterprise of old New England. There is no room in the city, he said, for the croaker or knocker but all should help push.

"The city has had reverses," said Mr. Young, "but these reverses have purified certain phases of business life and the standard was never higher than today. Norwalk's successes far outnumber her failures.

"Norwalk," he declared, "wants boosters, it needs the spirit of those who will put their best foot forward. It is a splendid city, surrounded by fertile fields, it has good stores, solid banks, excellent churches, transportation facilities unexcelled, a municipality well officered, it is a town where law and order prevails.

"We have in Norwalk the two greatest American advantages, American homes and American spirit."

The meeting closed with a selection by the orchestra, after which the crowd spent a few moments visiting the various sights and then returned to their homes.

Tuesday was Fraternal Day. At nine a. m. the exercises of the day opened, followed by a grand fraternal parade in which all the fraternal societies of Huron county participated. In the parade were floats, carriages and decorated vehicles. The address of the occasion was made by the Hon. Charles E. Piper, of Chicago, president of the National Fraternal Congress. In the evening there was a reunion of all former Norwalk officials, with Mayor Venus as chairman.

A plea for universal fraternity was the keynote of the address made by Hon. F. W. Van Dusen, the first speaker introduced. He said that the spirit of chivalry did not die with the middle ages, nor has it been limited to any age or time.

Fraternal day, he said, is singularly appropriate for a home-coming celebration for if there are two words in the English language which are syn-

onymous they are "home" and "fraternity." If the people, he said, will not go to the fraternities, why should not the latter go to the people?

Civilization, he said, is measured by the aspect with which woman is regarded. Among the savages she was a slave, in the early Christian days a toy. Today she is assuming a better position. Lightly touching the much discussed question of suffrage he said that the proper place of woman is perhaps not in the mire of politics where she might only add to the numerical strength of the voting force and not improve it.

Hon. Charles E. Piper, of Chicago, president of the National Fraternal Congress was in a happy vein when he arose to speak. Whimsical, but earnest withal he held the attention of his hearers.

The boy starting out in life, he said, learns history three times. First he learns the bare facts. When he goes to high school these are elaborated with regard to their position in history, but when he enters college he is for the third time told that he does not know history and must study it. The instructor makes him learn not only the facts of history but the facts with reference to the course of the world. It is not sufficient for him to know that Charles Martel defeated the Saracens, he must know why the Saracens were in Europe at that particular time.

In something the same manner we not only should know of the existence of fraternity but should know of it with reference to the world, why it is here and what are the objects which it is meant to accomplish.

Wednesday was Merchants' and Manufacturers' Day, opening at ten a. m. by a grand parade. At one-thirty p. m. was the decorated automobile parade. At three p. m. address by Hon. Judson Harmon, Governor of Ohio.

The combined efforts of the manufacturers and merchants of the city in celebration of industrial day resulted in the largest and best pageant in the history of the city. The various factories and merchants were represented with elaborate floats in a most creditable manner. The two ends of the parade met at State street, extending from that thoroughfare to Newton, to Jefferson, to Cortland, to Main, to State, a distance of over a mile and one-half. It took the paraders thirty minutes to pass a given point.

The pageant was witnessed by thousands of spectators who thronged the line of march, particularly in the business portion of the city. Early cars commenced bringing people from outlying districts and neighboring towns and cities until at ten o'clock Main and adjoining streets were a mass of humanity. The parade moved at ten-fifteen o'clock and included in its make-up Governor Harmon, who viewed the pageant from his automobile in front of the Avalon on the counter march. The governor was kept busy lifting his hat in response to the cheers which greeted him along the line.

The automobile parade in the afternoon was a feature of merchants' and mechanics' day of the centennial celebration. Fifty handsomely decorated machines made up the unique pageant, which reflected great credit upon the committee which had the affair in charge, which included Theodore Williams, chairman; W. C. Pressing, grand marshal; E. E. Sly and Arthur Young, assistants.

Mr. Pressing's car headed the parade and was followed by Dr. Merritt's car in which was seated Governor Harmon, Mayor Venus and Hon. S. E. Crawford. Two cars followed carrying the governor's staff and then came Dr. Simon's car with members of the centennial committee. The cars carrying the governor and staff and members of the committee were gaily decorated with flags and bunting.

At three p. m. the vast crowd assembled at School Park to hear the Governor's address.

Governor Harmon made a plea for law enforcement in his address at the high school grounds during the afternoon. The governor said that every dollar spent by a government affects the home owner by so much and the failure of any to obey the laws reacts on all.

There was a large crowd assembled when the governor arrived in an automobile with his staff. He was briefly introduced by C. F. Jackson, president of the Chamber of Commerce who said the executive was welcome not only as the governor but because through ancestry he is in a certain sense a home comer.

"The mere fact of having existed for a hundred years," said the governor, "is no matter for glory, but the glory exists in whatever may have been accomplished." He said that in looking back to what Norwalk was a century ago, it has every reason to be proud.

"No state in the union," he declared, "has as many prosperous cities as Ohio, and of these Norwalk is ranked with the fairest. We are proud of the cities of our state and proud of the agricultural districts which created them and which are sustaining them."

The governor said that he had visited this city in the past and was much surprised at the numerous industries located within its precincts.

"But more than industry or wealth," he said, "it is necessary for a city to possess rigid virtue and high ideals, and these Norwalk has.

"I do not know who will stand in my place a hundred years from now," said Governor Harmon, "but I do know that whoever he is, he will receive from Norwalk citizenship the same hearty welcome which was accorded me.

"When my ancestors moved to what was called west, two hundred years ago, that is the western part of New York, the house they built was not burned during the ravages of Benedict Arnold. Had he done so I might have been here in the capacity of a home-comer, a native of the Firelands.

"As we come to these home-comings we see that some of us are growing older but there are those who can show us how to grow old gradually, and teach us that every age has its pleasures if we will but find them."

The governor referred humorously to the numerous invitations which he has received from Ohio societies throughout the country and said that if he accepted one, for instance, which was sent him from the Pacific coast, he would not be able to attend to his duties at Columbus and the people would say that he is loafing on the job.

Becoming more serious on this topic he said that home-comings are an excellent thing, that they tend to strengthen the band of unity between section and section, making this more and more one country under one flag.

"One of the things which made easy the Civil war," said the governor, "was the fact that the criss-crossed lines of kinship did not run north and south and that we were two great bodies instead of one. It is different now, there are societies of the north in the south and vice versa."

The governor remarked that one of the signs of prosperity in Norwalk is the fact that almost everyone owns his own home.

He closed by making a plea for law enforcement because on it depends much of the safety and happiness of the household.

At the conclusion of his address the governor was whirled away in an auto, followed by his staff in two other machines, to the Avalon, where a public reception was held in the lobby. Members of company G. formed a pathway through which the people passed in a jam for three-quarters of an hour to shake the hand and pass a few words with the chief executive. Mayor Venus introduced the callers to the governor.

Owing to arrangements to take the chief executive to Sandusky where a public reception was arranged for a short time, the reception at the Avalon was cut short at three forty-five o'clock. The special car on the Lake Shore Electric, conveying the governor and several prominent Sandusky democratic politicians, Senator Dean, and Representative Crawford, of this city, who entertained the governor during his stay in this city, left for the Bay City at three fifty.

Thursday was Firelands Day. The Hon. C. H. Gallup, chairman.

Rev. Arthur Dumper pronounced the invocation and, omitting the music by the Italian band, Mr. Gallup at once introduced Hon. C. P. Wickham, who gave a memorial address to two honored ex-presidents of the society: Hon. G. T. Stewart, of this city and Judge Rush R. Sloane, of Sandusky, both having died in the last year. Judge Wickham's tribute was one that could well be rendered by one whose acquaintance with the two men had been closely intimate and personal. Of Mr. Stewart he gave a brief account of his life from his birth in 1824 to his recent death, of his education at Oberlin, his law study with Jairus Kennan and Noah Swayne, his newspaper connection with the Dubuque Times, where he held the unenviable position of anti-slavery editor in pro-slavery territory, of his long law practice in which he achieved distinction for his ability and justice. Mr. Stewart was a member of all organizations of Norwalk with the object of benefiting and uplifting and preserving the good and valuable, and prominent prohibitionist and temperance worker, last surviving charter member of the Whittlesey academy and one of the organizers of Firelands.

Of Mr. Sloane, Judge Wickham said: "He was a product of the Firelands, born and reared here and with his vital interests centered here. He was active in the prosecution of the Fugitive Slave law, but was for that afterward rewarded and recognized by election to various offices, among them probate judge. Lincoln's appointment as agent of postoffice department, and afterwards his commercial ability and recognition in railroad circles, caused him to abandon active law practice. He also was a member of many archæological and other societies and was the donor of five hundred dollars to the Firelands for its present home."

Dr. Beckwith, whose address was entitled "Reminiscences from 1835 to 1853," is a delightful, breezy old gentleman, whose recollections cover a period of Norwalk's history that saw great strides in her progress. He was born in Bronson, and first remembers Norwalk for an encounter between the Bronson and Norwalk lads on "the hill," where the latter essayed to enter Norwalk, the occasion being a circus. This was soon after followed by a mighty battle in which the Bronson Davids (with slings) slew the Norwalk Goliaths and peace was established. Dr. Beckwith attended Norwalk Seminary and recalled many interesting episodes. One, the attendance upon a young lady of the female department, his consequent public reproof, which failed of effect because he has been waiting on that same young lady sixty years. Dr. Beckwith attended this school with General McPherson, the famous general of the Civil war. George R. Haynes, who died early, George G. Haines, late of Toledo, well known as circuit judge here for many years. Dr. Beckwith's accounts of his earlier acceptance of homeopathy and its practice was interesting and often humorous. His early study with Dr. Tiffit and his treatment of the nervous patient Tim Strong, his acquiring of drug knowledge in John Dewey's drug store, his association with Drs. Kittredge and Baker and George Crane, all are reminiscences that recall the well known figures of Norwalk fifty years ago. His early experience of long rides and disagreeable cases rewarded by small or no fees, were very interesting. He was actively engaged in practice at the time of the cholera epidemic in 1853, consulted with Dr. Tilden and Dr. Kramer of Sandusky. An amusing incident was one of his resuscitation of a certain amorous Cox after a dose of laudanum. The sequel was characteristic. Attorney Tim Strong warned him that a serious charge had been placed against him, in which all the lawyers of Huron county were against him. Mr. Strong advised him as a friend, to engage Judge Ranney, of Cleveland. Dr. Beckwith inquired, "Why?" "Because you brought back to life that 'love-sick' fool, Cox." Dr. Beckwith closed with a glowing tribute to Dr. Tiffit, whom many present well remembered.

The afternoon session was principally given to addresses and reminiscences by pioneer descendants. Hon. C. H. Gallup gave an interesting talk on, "One Century of Norwalk," recounting the city's growth from its founding by Nathan Comstock, February 7, 1809, to the present day. Another speaker was Professor A. S. Root, who talked in an entertaining manner with regard to local historical societies, their uses and benefits. "It is such organizations as these," he said, "that stir patriotism and gives to all a keener interest in the affairs of state and municipality." He paid a splendid compliment to the local society on the completeness of its records and the splendid museum.

Another speaker was Professor Prince, of Cincinnati, a member of the Ohio Archæological and Geological society. He told of the rich historical value of the Western Reserve and the Firelands as viewed from residents of another portion of the state. A number of pioneers spoke briefly giving reminiscences of early days in the Firelands.

The following is taken from the Norwalk Herald, of Friday, 18th: The closing remarks of the Firelands Pioneer Historical society were made by A. J. Baughman of Mansfield, who was here as representative of the State Archæological society, and they were peculiarly appropriate as a prelude to the exercises

of today in which the G. A. R. participated, as at the close, Mr. Baughman recited a little poem, "The Soldiers of the Civil War Are on Their Last March."

They are marching down the valley at the great Commander's call,
Though the way is rough and weary, and the mystic shadows fall;
But the hearts that beat so bravely in the battle's fierce affray,
Do not falter at the summons, nor the dangers of the way.

They are marching down the valley, hark, the sound of tramping feet!
They go on thro' summer's sunshine. they go on thro' winter's sleet;
Banners wave and arms aglitter, and the music's throbbing breath
Echoes in the solemn valley, that we name the Vale of Death.

They are marching down the valley, and we follow gladly on,
For the music sweet and eerie tells the way that they have gone;
And we'll find them camped in meadows where the waters stilly flow;
Where the sward is soft and verdant, and the flowers of heaven grow.

Thursday was also Sunday school day.

The parade moved promptly at ten-thirty o'clock, the appointed hour, in charge of Charles A. Paul as grand marshal, assisted by Dr. H. Fulstow, Milo Johnson, Phil Fulstow and Douglas Gardiner.

Following the grand marshals came the Royal Italian band and centennial officials in carriages. The first Sunday school in the line was the Baptist organization, headed with a large float trimmed in yellow with a cross in the center, to which a young woman, with long, flowing hair clung, representing, "Rock of Ages." Women with babies in carriages, representing the cradle roll came next. The ladies of D. Kies' Bible class wore gowns of yellow and white and clung to white and yellow streamers which led to a staff carried by Mr. Kies. One float was filled with boys alongside of which walked men of various races representing the missionary work of the church.

The Congregational church was the second denomination in line. Their delegation started with the cradle roll in small carts drawn by ponies, all neatly decorated with white flowers. Ladies in carriages, children dressed in white, riding on large floats and another large wagon filled with church pews, on which were seated elderly people, concluded the delegation from the Congregational church.

The Junior Order drum corps marched at the head of the Episcopal delegation, the first being a large float filled with children. A small pony and cart handsomely decorated with yellow cloth and nasturtiums carried yellow. An auto gaily decorated with flags and evergreens, filled with children followed, the procession of Episcopalians being closed with two carriage loads of children dressed in white.

The Presbyterian Sunday school was led by two electric automobiles handsomely decorated. A large float handsomely decorated in white carried many children neatly dressed in white suits and dresses. It required, in addition, to carry the delegation—eight surreys and a band wagon.

The Chicago Junction band came between the Presbyterian and Methodist organizations the latter being headed by several surreys in which were seated ladies dressed in white. A large float, decorated in pink and white, and covered with flowers, carried a large number of children, arranged in pyramid form. Two floats decorated in red, white and blue, carried young people, one representing the Puritans of several centuries ago. Four automobiles, with white decorations, carried a number of young ladies in white gowns.

The entire procession was concluded by the Universalist Sunday school, a float decorated in red, white and blue carrying children, and three carriages filled with teachers of the school.

Friday was Grand Army and Military Day, and one of the largest gatherings of the veterans of the Civil war ever held in Huron county was at the home-coming in Norwalk on this day.

The meeting of the Soldiers' and Sailors' association was deferred until the present week in order to combine the two functions and make one grand general reunion of the veterans and their families, the meetings being usually held in June of each year.

This morning's session was devoted to the business affairs of the organization, the election of officers and other such matters. The meeting was called to order by President J. M. Chaffee shortly before ten o'clock.

A neat souvenir, consisting of an American flag pin, was presented with the compliments of the Marsh company, to each of the veterans as he entered the hall. Vice president Charles Stacey, secretary W. G. Holiday and treasurer W. H. Cline were busy at the beginning of the session pinning badges on members of the association.

Among those who spoke during the forenoon were Orville S. Reed, of Toledo, department chaplain, and past department commander of Ohio Rogers of Cleveland.

The Gilger theater was filled in the afternoon by veterans of the Civil war, and their friends to hear the eloquent words that fell from the lips of General R. B. Brown, of Zanesville, past department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The theater was handsomely decorated for the occasion with flags and emblems of the order, the front of the balcony and stage being handsomely festooned with the national colors. Colonel James H. Sprague was chairman of the day.

General Brown, known as one of the most eloquent speakers in the G. A. R. was at his best yesterday afternoon and his reference to the stirring incidents of the bloody civil conflict caused the pulse of his old comrades to quicken, while numerous pathetic stories of the war caused the tears to course down the furrows of the cheeks of the old soldiers who knew full well the meaning of his words. It was an intensely patriotic audience that listened to General Brown and he was frequently interrupted by applause.

General Brown made a strong appeal to parents to instil in their children the idea of patriotism; to teach them the full significance of their liberty under this great republic; what its institutions mean, and the great sacrifice made to bring it into existence and perpetuate it.

The sight of "old glory," he said, prior to the Civil war, with the possible exception of some Fourth of July celebration, was a rare thing. He ventured the assertion that had "old glory" been as familiar a sight in the days before the war as it is today the civil conflict would have been impossible.

Troop K, fifteenth cavalry, U. S. A., arrived in Norwalk Thursday forenoon.

Riding two by two through Main street, the troopers presented a splendid appearance, were in full marching order, with sabers and carbines and shelter tents wrapped in rolls, their service uniforms being neat and clean in spite of their long "hike." At their head as they entered the city rode Captain F. C. Marshall, in command, and First Lieutenant John Cocke.

Saturday was the closing day of the centennial celebration. The day dawned cool and clear and has been ideal for such a celebration as the city has indulged the past week. Farmers seemed inclined to take a day off and early afternoon cars brought crowds from the rural districts.

The officials of the centennial association are supremely satisfied with the celebration and count it a great success.

The following editorial, suggested by Norwalk Home Week celebration, appeared in the *Cleveland Leader* of Saturday:

"Such a celebration as that which has taken place at Norwalk this week is good to participate in, fine to contemplate by those whose early home ties lead them to some other city or village away from the metropolitan centers. The "home week" serves both to bring back old memories and to renew old acquaintances, as well as to show the elder boys and girls who have drifted away what a fine place the old town is, after all. Thus the new Norwalk displays its many attractions, while the old Norwalk is brought to life in the memories of its children.

"Home weeks" in America are less ostentatious manifestations of the spirit which has inspired English towns to work out festivals with showy greatness. American towns have no hoary legends to commemorate, and depend largely upon the memory of men and women now living to supply the traditions.

For sheer personal enjoyment the American "welcome home" beats the English elaborate pageant all hollow."

The following letters from one of "the old boys of Norwalk"—"Jim" Patterson—will explain themselves:

DENVER, COLO., June 14, 1909.

C. P. Wickham, Norwalk, Ohio.

Old Friend Charlie:—I have this day received notice of the "Norwalk Centennial," in which I read, "Please come home, Old Mother Norwalk wants to see all her children," and requesting an answer "whether or not you will be present to celebrate the occasion with us."

How much I would like above all things to come, and will if possible, but am afraid I cannot.

"Home coming!" What visions open up; how old memories are stirred when we think of the old home; how present surroundings recede and the boyish environments come to the front and occupy the whole stage. Gee!

But say, wouldn't it be better for me to stay away? I shall miss so many things. Won't I suffer sharp disappointments? Over half a century! Here

now I am an old man; there I was a boy. I don't know your Norwalk of today; the Norwalk of old is in my mind. I am sure I no longer recognize it as you have made it. I could not—nor would I wish to if I could—destroy the illusion. It is a comfort for me to dream of the things that were there once upon a time, and that was in the long ago. I know that it has not all vanished, but in the picture memory presents to me I see plainly certain outlines of streets, houses, gardens, forests, meadows and streams that have vanished or altered. This gradual change has been going on all these years; you have not noticed it, it is nothing to you, but it is everything to me.

What are you going to do about it? I know. You are going to entertain the old boys and girls the very best you can; you are going to "point with pride" to all your improvements. We old ones will recognize your pride in these things, as the age in which we live demands them, and your civic spirit has been equal to the call; but I fear there will be an aching void which you cannot fill and for which you will be in nowise to blame. We can lay it on to old Father Time.

In later years when you are no longer there, when long years have intervened, you are conscious that all those old things are dear to you, necessary to you, that they are a part of you, and you have a great desire to see them again. Will I be able to gratify this longing if I come there?

These old scenes which you no longer behold, which you imagine you may never again behold, and whose memory you cherish, take on a melancholy charm; they rise up like an apparition; all that is restful, pleasant, enchantingly visible to your longing mind. You love it, you call up things as they were, you cannot tolerate any change in them, for you were attached to them. They are woven in the warp and woof of the boy who received his first impression of things in his most plastic, susceptible state of mind, and you cannot eradicate them or offer a satisfactory substitute for those things that filled the mind in those far-off days of happy childhood and youth. You cannot erase the indelible impressions produced upon the heart of man by the place where he was born. No matter how many long years have intervened since you left your native place, no matter if all your property interests are centered in some other place, no matter how pleasantly you may be situated or how good your health may have been, you may be one of the leading citizens of your adopted home, advising all to come and profit by its wonderful advantages and invest their money as the best place in the world; yet, in the heart of that man the pleasantest memories of all his life cluster around the old original home. It might not have been the best place in the world, but it is the best to think about.

I long to see it again, to roam around and examine it, just to see how much damage you have done to it by your improvements.

I would like to ride down to the lake on your electric cars. I used to go down to Huron on foot, or rather on two feet—and both of them bare at that.

Yes, there are lots of things I should miss, but above all, I should miss the forms and faces and pleasant voices of so very many of my old companions and acquaintances. Some of them are left, and I would like to meet them, and will if I can. I see your name on the reception committee, and others that I recollect so well, but there are so many that I do not know; sure they are

CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



BAPTIST
CHURCH



LUTHERAN CHURCH

all right or they wouldn't be there, and if I cannot be with you I hereby send my heartiest greetings. If I come I will bring them with me. Remember me to all old friends, and most sincerely to you and yours.

J. O. PATTERSON.

MAKE REUNION STEADY THING—CITIZEN SAYS HE CANNOT WAIT ANOTHER HUNDRED YEARS TO MEET HIS FRIENDS.

Why wait a hundred years?

Maybe we'll all be dead then.

There is considerable pith in the suggestion made to the Herald today that the present glorious home-coming be made an annual event instead of an occasion observed only at each centennial.

"There is no reason for thinking," said a prominent citizen, "that love of the old city burns but once in a hundred years or that it requires the stimulus of a centennial to warm the friendly hand-clasp. The flower of love is not a century plant, nor should the 'cup of kindness' be put on the stove to simmer for a dozen generations before it is quaffed.

"Those who came to the centennial and home-coming were glad to be here and we were glad to see them. Will they not be just as glad next year and the year after, and every year until the end of time?

"This home-coming spirit is a great thing and should be encouraged. It is just the right procedure to implant in the young mind a love of his native city, which is only patriotism in a narrower form, and teach him that after he has flown the home nest there is someone always waiting to hear good things of him.

"So let us have the home-coming every year. It need not be elaborate, may be nothing more than the hand-shake and the 'God bless you,' spoken from the heart but let it become an established institution so that all will know that Norwalk welcomes its wandering sons.

"If we wished to go into it on an elaborate scale we might have a pageant typifying the settlement of the Firelands and the Western Reserve. Redskins scooting down the main street, and pioneers roughly attired going to church with a gun slung on their shoulders would be a sight to make the youngsters of today open their eyes, I'll warrant.

"A pageant of this sort could be prepared without a great deal of expense and people would come miles to see it. It would become a sort of Mardi Gras of the north and if made an annual event would do more to advertise Norwalk than one could imagine."

THE CHURCHES OF NORWALK.

THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

BY MR. L. L. DOUD.

In 1823 the First Methodist Society was organized with seven members. Preaching services and Sunday school were held in Joseph Wilson's house, which stood on the southwest corner of East Main and Prospect streets.

The first church building was erected in 1833-34, on Seminary street, and is still used for church services by the Evangelical Lutheran Society. The second church building was erected in 1855-56, on the corner of West Main street and Benedict avenue, and was occupied until May 1, 1893, when this property was sold to the C. F. Jackson Co., who built what is now known as the Glass Block on the site.

The society then held its church services in Whittlesey Hall, across the street, until the Sunday school room of the present church building was ready for occupancy, February 14, 1897. Here the services were held until the main auditorium was completed and the church finally dedicated, June 22, 1902.

The church records now, in 1909, show a membership of six hundred and thirty enrolled, with about five hundred in the Sunday school. The records on high alone can tell how many souls have been saved through this church, and finally garnered in heaven, during the past eighty-six years.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

BY MR. BYRON HANFORD.

On September 20, 1818, four men and one woman joined in a conference that January, 1819, became the present Baptist church of Norwalk. It numbered fourteen members. A Scotch minister preached from the words, "Fear not little flock," etc.

Asahel Morse was first clerk, and Lemuel Raymond the first deacon, and the earliest settled pastor in 1821 to 1824 was John Rigdon. Services were first held in a log schoolhouse on land now owned by heirs of Sidney Brown, Ridgefield township. The present location was contracted for January, 1835, and the first edifice dedicated June, 1836, while the present one was dedicated March, 1880. The organization has had twenty-two pastors in its ninety years' existence. The late Otis G. Carter was the earliest Sunday school superintendent and the present church membership is about four hundred.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

BY MR. F. C. WICKHAM.

Of Norwalk was organized in 1830, nearly eighty years ago. In this time it has had but eight pastors. The first person to be ordained as its regular pastor was Rev. Alfred Newton, D. D., who served his church for thirty-five years with a steadfast purpose that during his time and in after years brought forth rich fruitage. Retiring from service on account of the infirmity of years, he was made pastor emeritus carrying with him to his grave the love and esteem of not only his own church people but of the entire community in which he so long resided. He was succeeded by Rev. Henry H. Rice, a young and zealous pastor, and he by the following named pastors: Rev. James D. Williamson, Rev. J. M. Seymour, Rev. Dr. W. A. Broadhurst, Rev. W. D. Atkinson, Rev. H. S. Forrer and Rev. A. J. Funnell, the latter having been called in the spring of 1909.

The church has a live, working membership of three hundred or more and with it a prosperous and growing Sabbath school.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

BY REV. ARTHUR DUMPER.

The earliest record of this parish, a little faded bit of paper now preserved in the Firelands Historical Rooms, is dated January 20, 1821, at Norwalk. It declares that a meeting for organizing an Episcopal church was presided over by Platt Benedict, Esq., and that William Gardner was elected clerk. The following gentlemen thereupon enrolled themselves as members and friends of the Protestant Episcopal church: Platt Benedict, Luke Keeler, Amos Woodward, William Gardner, Ami Keeler, William Woodward, Gurdon Woodward, Ezra Sprague, Enos Gilbert, John Keeler, John Boalt, Samuel Sparrow, Asa Sanford, Henry Hurlbut, E. Lane, William Gallup, D. Gibbs and Moses Sowers. The parish was organized under the name, St. Paul's.

In the year 1818 the first public religious service in Norwalk was conducted in the log shanty of Platt Benedict. It consisted of the service of the Episcopal church together with the reading of a sermon by a layman. Two years later this congregation was holding services regularly every Lord's day in the court house.

The old church building now standing in the rear of the new church was erected in 1835; and enlarged first in the rectorship of E. Winthrop and again, in the incumbency of the late Rev. Royal Balcom. The first service of the holy communion was celebrated by the Rev. Roger Searle, February 17, 1822. The first annual parish meeting was held on Easter Monday, 1821. The first Episcopal visitation was that of Bishop Philander Chase, the founder of Kenyon College, on Sunday, August 14, 1825.

The succession of ministers who have served the parish is as follows: The Rev. Roger Searle, the Rev. C. P. Bronson, the Rev. John P. Bausman, the Rev. Ephraim Punderson, the Rev. Anson Clarke, the Rev. J. J. Okill, the Rev. Alvon Guion, the Rev. Sabin Hough, the Rev. Edward Winthrop, the Rev. George W. Watson, the Rev. Henry Tullidge, the Rev. William Newton, the Rev. H. H. Morrell, the Rev. Royal B. Balcom, the Rev. Charles S. Aves and the Rev. Arthur Dumper.

Splendid laymen and women, an illustrious line beginning with Platt Benedict, have been and still are identified with St. Paul's church; names prominent and influential in the founding and upbuilding of the city; men and women whose labors and virtues live fruitfully after them.

The present rector of the parish is the Rev. Arthur Dumper who began his labors here in 1903. In the last few years Benedict Chapel has been enlarged and its interior remodeled for parish house purposes. The cornerstone of the new church, a stately Gothic structure of stone, was laid on the fifteenth of November, 1908. It will have a seating capacity of four hundred and fifty, and exclusive of furnishings and memorial gifts will cost about fifty thousand dollars. The church is in a flourishing condition with bright prospects for the future.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

BY MR. L. L. SNOOK.

The First Congregational church of Norwalk, Ohio, was organized at the court house in Norwalk, December 19, 1867, under the labors of Rev. A. S. Walsh.

The number of original members was fifty-four, mostly drawn from the old Congregational church of Bronson township, which was thereby disbanded.

For more than three years the infant church was without a sanctuary. A part of this time it worshiped in the court house, and during the remainder was the guest of its sisters, the Protestant Episcopal and Baptist churches, whose hospitality deserves kind remembrance. In 1868 the old hotel known as the Gauff House (standing where the church now stands), was purchased, and thither the prayer meeting, previously held at private houses, was removed. Many a hallowed hour, now tenderly remembered, was passed in those rooms, formerly the scene of drunken revels. Here also the Sunday school was organized.

The new church was completed early in 1871 and dedicated February 2nd of that year. The cost of the building and lot was about sixteen thousand dollars. Several thousand dollars' debt remained after the dedication, which proved a heavy and almost insupportable burden for many years. At last, in October, 1878, with the aid of Mr. Edward Kimball, the entire amount was subscribed, and by May 1, 1880, the last dollar was paid and the church has since been free from debt.

THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

BY MR. H. S. CLAPP.

The Universalist church of Norwalk, Ohio, was organized on the third Sunday in January, 1869, with twenty-seven members. A little more than a year before this time, Dr. H. L. Canfield, who was then preaching in Peru, began holding services in Norwalk, where he thought there was an opportunity to establish a church. From such beginnings, small in every way except the faith and courage of Dr. Canfield, has grown the Universalist church of Norwalk. In April, 1868, a Sunday school was organized with four scholars which was increased to fifty in less than a year.

Among the twenty-seven charter members of the church are the names of such well known old time residents of Norwalk as William A. Mack, Frederick Sears, Samuel Wilkinson, Aro D. Clapp, George Gauff, Sterry Cole, Addison Sigourney, Sarah E. Dunbar and Catherine E. Rose. The first officers of the church were Frederick Sears, William A. Mack, A. D. Clapp, D. A. Baker and Frederick Wickham, trustees. Rev. H. L. Canfield, moderator. A. B. Hannaford, clerk. Mrs. Hiram Rose, treasurer. W. A. Mack and S. Wilkinson, deacons.

When the church was fairly established, steps were taken to build a church edifice but it was not until December, 1872, that the church was completed. On Sunday, December 8th, it was formally dedicated. Since that time, we will let the work of the church speak for itself.

ST. PETER'S ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

BY REV. H. G. SUTTER.

Congregation organized in January, 1901, by Rev. W. F. Rose, and served by him until Easter, 1902. From then until Easter, 1907, it was served by Rev. O. T. F. Tressel. From December, 1907, until now, by Rev. H. G. Sutter. Church property purchased and remodeled in 1902.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.

BY REV. P. J. QUINN.

St. Mary's congregation was organized in the summer of 1856 and its first pastor was Rev. Narcissus Ponchell. Prior to Easter Sunday, 1859, when mass was said for the first time in the newly completed church of St. Mary's, corner of Milan and St. Mary streets, the English speaking Catholics of Norwalk and vicinity chose to worship in St. Alphonsus church of Peru, and later in old St. Peter's Norwalk. The founding of St. Mary's was a great help to Catholics in Norwalk. It put the faith and practices of Catholics in a clearer light. The language of the country was spoken from its pulpit and those outside its fold, whom chance or impulse brought to attend the services, usually went away with a clearer conception of the motives and practices of his fellow Catholic citizens.

The congregation grew and prospered until it became necessary to build a larger edifice. A new site was chosen at the corner of State and League streets, which is today graced by one of the most beautiful church edifices in Norwalk. Adjacent to the church stands the new stone parsonage, a type of Norwalk's recent handsome and substantial residences. A parochial school and sisters' house also adorn the property.

The pastors who served St. Mary's have been deservedly popular with all classes in Norwalk, being held in high esteem for their piety, prudence, and ability. The following clergymen served at the altar of St. Mary's: Rev. Narcissus Ponchell, 1860; Rev. John Quinn, 1864; Rt. Rev. T. P. Thorp, 1868; Rev. T. F. Hally, 1884; Rev. C. V. Cheveraux, 1897; Rev. Jas. J. Quinn, 1900; Rev. Francis Malloy, 1903; Rev. P. J. Quinn, present pastor.

ST. PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

BY REV. JOHN A. SCHAFFELD.

The pioneers in the religious field in the territory now called Huron county, Ohio, of which our beautiful city, Norwalk, is the county seat, were the early French missionary priests. These men, well versed not only in the science of religion, but also of the difficult art of topography, thoroughly explored the immense regions of the Great Lakes.

The Huron Indians had attracted the attention of the French priests at Quebec. This tribe was then located a few miles below the site of the present city of Detroit. From Quebec, missionaries were sent out to them, but effected little owing to the roving disposition of this tribe. This roving disposition accounts for the name of our county. For, dissatisfied with their hunting grounds at Detroit, a large part of the tribe pushed along the southern shore of Lake Erie and located at Sandusky Bay, which name owes its origin to the Huron Indian word, "Ootsandooske," meaning, "there the water is pure." From the bay they spread to the south into what now constitutes our county—hence the name, Huron county.

The French missionaries followed the Indians in this migration, and worked zealously among them. Their journals state that this particular tribe was of very unsteady habits, being much inclined to intemperance and other excesses. The Rev. Father Potier and the Rev. Father De la Richardie took charge of the

Huron mission. Both of these priests labored in what is now Huron county, and where Norwalk now stands. The first Christian religious service held in this territory was held by Father Potier, in 1749, who in that year began his regular visits to the Indians of this county.

From this decidedly humble beginning, the present large and prosperous St. Paul's church and congregation have gradually developed. Three churches they built, only in turn to find them too small for their ever increasing numbers. Old St. Peter's, at the west end of Main street, built 1840; New St. Peter's, on Hester street, built 1868; Old St. Paul's, at the corner of Wooster and Monroe streets, built in 1876. Finding that even their third building would no longer answer the demands made upon it by the ever growing congregation, it was decided to build a monumental building amply large for the future. The result of that determination is the new St. Paul's, the noble, beautiful structure of white limestone and Lake Superior red stone that now graces the corner of Main and Wooster streets. Nor is this all. Urged on by the conviction that education can never be real education unless it educates the heart as well as the mind; that education, divorced from religion, is incomplete; that the child must be trained in his duties towards God, his country, his parents and his neighbors as thoroughly and as well as in the three R's, this congregation has from the very beginning, built and maintained splendid parochial schools, ever since the year 1858. The present school is the pride of the parish. From it, many of Norwalk's noblest men and grandest women have graduated. Not only are all the ordinary common school branches taught, but thorough, practical instruction is also given in the commercial branches, bookkeeping, shorthand and typewriting. Added to this, there is an art department, in which drawing, painting in oil and water colors, crayon and pastel work are taught. A complete course in needlework, plain and ornamental, has been established for the girls. The Sisters of Notre Dame, who enjoy a very high reputation as teachers, have charge of St. Paul's school. The art exhibitions of this school, held annually, are noted for their lavish display of truly artistic work. The number of pupils is three hundred and twenty-five.

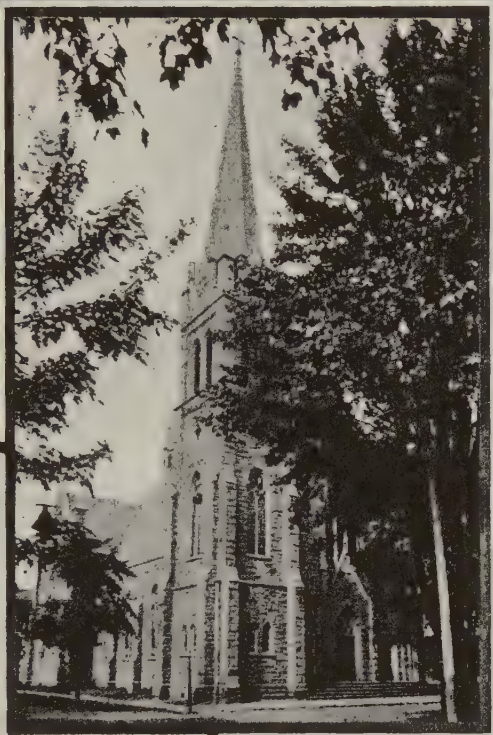
HURON COUNTY HOME FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM.

BY GEORGE MORDOFF, EX-SUPERINTENDENT.

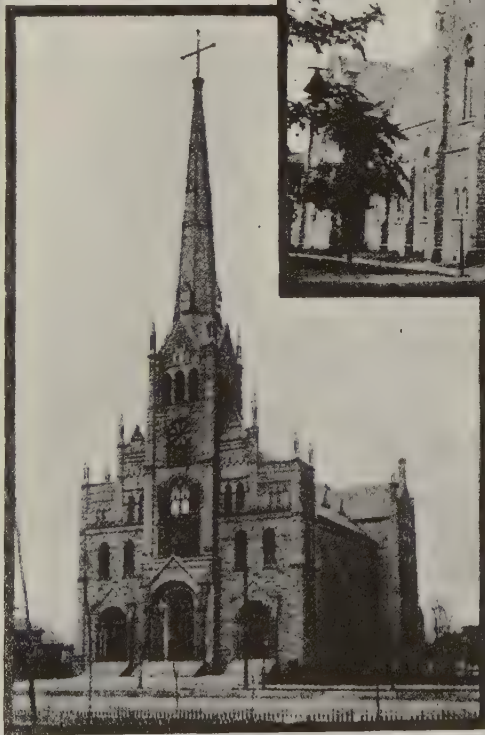
The old title "Poor House" would seem altogether ridiculous if applied to the modern "County Home" buildings pictured above.

At the State Conference of Charities and Corrections, the Huron county institution is looked upon as a model, a fact of which every citizen should feel proud. The modern methods, employed by the management of county institutions, seek to make better men and women of the inmates, and they are in no sense a retreat for criminals and dissipated characters, as they were once looked upon as being. Sixty or more citizens of Huron county are given a real home—at least as real as institutional methods will permit. Respects for "The Rights of Others" is the governing rule.

The land value of Huron county's home is twenty-five thousand, five hundred dollars, consisting of two hundred and four acres. The building value, forty-



ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC
CHURCH



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

three thousand dollars. Live stock value, three thousand, one hundred and forty-six dollars, and other items of inventory bring the total value to seventy-four thousand, three hundred and fifty-nine dollars.

The farm produces as follows: Consumed by inmates, produce valued at four thousand, eight hundred and twenty-one dollars. Live stock sold, value, three hundred and ninety-eight dollars. Produce sold, eight hundred and eighty-five dollars. Total value of farm products, six thousand and four dollars.

NORWALK ACADEMY.

In October, 1826, an association of individuals was organized under the name of "The President, Trustees, etc., of the Norwalk Academy." A three-story brick building was erected on the site of our present high school. In October, 1829, the academy was consolidated with the district schools with John Kennan as principal.

In the museum of the Firelands Historical Society may be seen a catalogue of the officers and students of Norwalk academy under date of March 17, 1829. Trustees: Platt Benedict, president, Timothy Baker, Deverett Bradley, William Gallup, Henry Buckingham, Thaddeus B. Sturgess, Obadiah Jenney. John Kennan, principal. Nathan G. Sherman, Levina Lindsey, assistants.

NORWALK SEMINARY.

On the eleventh of November, 1833, the Norwalk seminary was opened in the Academy building under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal church, with Rev. Jonathan E. Chaplin as principal. The seminary burned February 26, 1836; was rebuilt in 1838, and closed in January, 1846, and the whole property sold under execution in favor of the builders. Reopened as Norwalk Institute in August, 1846, under the auspices of the Baptists of Norwalk.

NORWALK INSTITUTE.

Rev. Jeremiah Hall was the first principal of the "Institute," and was succeeded by A. S. Hutchins, who continued as principal until 1855, when the institute ceased to exist by reason of the Akron School Law providing for graded public schools.

NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL.

In March, 1855, the school board purchased the brick building occupied by the Norwalk institute, to be used as a central and high school building for the district. The purchase price was three thousand, five hundred dollars, which embraced the entire square occupied by the present beautiful high school building, a small library and some apparatus. In 1884 the central school building was erected at a cost of about sixty thousand dollars. The first graduate of the high school was Sarah E. Wilkinson in 1861. The largest class graduated is the class of 1905, numbering eighteen young men and sixteen young women. In all two

hundred and thirty-one young men and three hundred and ninety-five young women have been graduated from the Norwalk high school.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF HURON COUNTY.

BY F. O. RONK, COUNTY AUDITOR.

Huron county, Ohio, was organized in 1815 and embraced all the territory now included in Huron and Erie counties, having an area of five hundred thousand acres. The first session of the county commissioners was held August 1, 1815, at David Abbott's, the county seat then being at Avery or in Wheatborough township near Milan. The first county commissioners were Caleb Palmer, Charles Parker and Eli S. Barnum. The first county treasurer was Abijah Comstock.

Previous to 1816 the nearest postoffice was Huron. In that year Dr. Joseph Pierce was appointed postmaster and a postoffice established at Norwalk in the Benjamin Newcome house located on what is now known as the Asher Cole farm south of the old waterworks. The county seat was transferred to Norwalk in 1818. The voting population in 1818 was fifty-six. The first tax duplicate which included the territory now embraced by Huron and Erie counties was one hundred ninety-two dollars and forty cents. Huron county was divided into Huron and Erie counties in 1838. From this primitive beginning, Huron county has grown to be one of the wealthiest and most progressive counties of the state. Her present population is now about thirty-five thousand with a tax duplicate of five hundred forty-six thousand, five hundred and seventy-two dollars.

Sixty miles of modern stone and gravel roads have been constructed and this mileage is being added to rapidly. Nine steam railroads cross the county, several of them having large shops located in this county, bringing their taxable value up to two million, five hundred and forty-eight thousand, one hundred and thirty-seven dollars. Three electric railroads come within the county, with a taxable value of one hundred ninety-one thousand, six hundred and thirty-two dollars. Sixteen substantial banks enjoy the confidence of our citizens who have deposits therein amounting to five million dollars.

The old courthouse which was built in 1818 was located on the same ground as the present courthouse. It was rebuilt in 1873 and was thoroughly remodeled in 1908. The old jail, which was built in 1819, occupied the same ground on which the Taber block stands. The present building was erected in 1887.

THE NORWALK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

BY C. F. JACKSON, PRESIDENT.

Inspired by the success of organized effort in the upbuilding of communities, the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce was organized in 1908 to strengthen and develop the interest of Norwalk and to bring more business to its commercial and industrial enterprises.

Through its committees, the manufacturers, the retailers and the financial interests are equally represented.

It is the business of the Chamber of Commerce to develop cooperation. Although its individual members may be competitors in certain lines, that does not prevent cooperation along lines of mutual interest, and so far, harmonious united effort of members and committees has prevailed.

It is the purpose of this organization to assist in securing new industries for Norwalk, not by bonuses, but by showing Norwalk's superior advantages, that it is the best location economically for certain lines of manufacture when a superior degree of intelligence, sobriety and thrift is required of its laborers.

The Chamber of Commerce believes that it is the duty of influential men of this community to study the signs of the times—to assume the responsibility of the solutions of problems of the day—to devote their energies to the commercial, civic, social and esthetic development of the city—to have as their aim the ideal Norwalk.

NORWALK OF TODAY FROM A MUNICIPAL STANDPOINT.

BY MAYOR C. P. VENUS.

The city of Norwalk with a population of about ten thousand people surrounded by a rich agricultural county, with a conservative, intelligent population, is a surprisingly resourceful municipality and is abundantly able to care for its own under any and all circumstances.

Every municipality is judged somewhat by its municipal officers and their administration of its business.

Our police and fire departments have always been maintained in such a manner, that for efficiency and high standard, they are recognized as among the best in any city regardless of size. And the fact that for nearly a score of years back, almost without exception, the city's tax rate has been the lowest of any of the municipal tax levies of the neighboring corporations, speaks for the business methods and judgment of other officers louder than any words here could.

The growth of the city is keeping pace with the demands of the day. Many new dwellings have been completed or are in process of construction, and right now the demand for houses to rent is at flood tide, and all modern dwellings offered for rent are immediately occupied.

During the past year, several new stores have been added, besides large additions to The Glass Block; a magnificent hotel, The Avalon, being finished to meet Norwalk's increasing commercial demands, and when completed this hostelry will be one of the finest between Cleveland and Toledo, a credit to its proprietors and to the Maple City.

The new Wheeling & Lake Erie shops are today employing more men than ever before. The A. B. Chase Piano Co. and the Gallup-Ruffing Co. have constructed large additions to their plants.

Norwalk is planning and accomplishing for the future, by keeping pace with this steady increase in our business interests. We take a just pride in our water supply, which is wholesome and sufficient for double the present demands.

Norwalk has well under way a complete and perfect sewerage system, which includes a disposal plant. Forty thousand dollars was expended last year for new sewers, which are a part of the proposed plant.

City streets are covered with eleven miles of fine brick pavement, and quite a large amount of pavement is under way which will be completed before the end of 1909.

The credit for the wholesome condition of the municipality of Norwalk belongs to our splendid citizenship, in which we all claim a common share.

Our shipping facilities are of the best, having the main lines of the L. S. & M. S. and W. & L. E. Railways, and we are one of the largest traction line centers in the country, over one hundred and twenty-five interurban electric cars in and out of Norwalk every twenty-four hours.

Norwalk is an ideal place in which to make one's home. Its natural beauty and high standard of citizenship of which we boast makes an invitation to come to Norwalk almost irresistible to the business man, commercial traveler, mechanic or manufacturer, as well as the man who is able to retire and live out his days with most pleasant and agreeable surroundings.

THE INDIANS OF THE FIRELANDS.

The Indians found the prairie and woodlands of the Firelands abounding in game, but many years have elapsed since the last red man hunted within the borders of Huron county.

Seneca John was accustomed to hunt in the southern and western parts of Huron county. The early settlers of that region always gave him a cordial welcome, and some of them have placed on record their appreciation of his character. He could speak but little English, but was always friendly to the settlers, and was brave, honest, and trustworthy.

Ogontz was better known in the region of Sandusky, which was one of his favorite resorts at certain seasons of the year, for the purpose of fishing and hunting, and that locality was for years known, by reason of this fact, as "Ogontz place."

The tragedy which ended the life of each of these hunter and warrior chiefs, illustrates the sanguinary character of their race. Seneca John was accused of witchcraft, and having been condemned by his own tribe, was unhesitatingly slain—his own brother being the executioner. Ogontz, years before his death, had killed, in self defense, a rival chief, and had adopted the latter's son, who, even in his boyhood, cherished a desire to avenge his father's death. The boy grew up, and when the opportunity offered, took the life of Ogontz, who had been a second father to him.

It is a mystery how, in this northern climate, the Indians obtained the means of living through the winter. Even those tribes who did not despise agriculture tilled the soil in a superficial way, and often had short crops. In such a season, their chief dependence was on fish and game, and even these must at times have failed them.

The Indian's daily work was hunting and trapping game, when he was not on the war trail, seeking the scalps of his enemies. According to Seneca John, the hunting grounds were, by agreement, allotted among the tribes, and, doubtless, encroachments on one another's territory and disputes as to boundaries, were the fruitful causes of quarrels and bloodshed.

In the autumn of every year the prairies were burned over, that the abundant deer might be more easily tracked and hunted over the bare and blackened soil.

While the young men were engaged in such pursuits, the other members of the tribes remained at home.

The squaws, meanwhile, tied up their little papposes in bark cradles, which they hung from the limbs of trees, to be rocked by the passing wind while they toiled with sweating faces and aching backs.

THE SETTLEMENT OF HURON COUNTY.

WRITTEN FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, JUNE 17, 1896, BY I. M. GILLETTE, OF NORWALK.

Eighty-seven years ago, there came away from the shores of the Atlantic, in the state of Connecticut, a little party of three men.

This adventurous band left home and civilization, faced the perils of a journey of over six hundred miles, and endured the hardships and toils of making a new home in the wilderness of a strange land.

About eight weeks from their departure, these pioneers arrived at their destination, in the wilds of the Firelands, now Huron county. In these vast woods the blows of the settler's ax had never resounded; through their branches the smoke from the settler's cabin had never curled. Here roamed the deer, and the bear; and here the silence of the midnight hour was broken by the howling of the wolf and the whoop of the hostile Indian.

They built their cabin and began the clearing of their lands.

After awhile others came in, consisting of families of men, women and children. Some of the men were farmers, some were skilled in trades and professions.

The women were neat and industrious housewives, and diligent workers at the spinning wheel and the loom. These pioneers began the great work of converting a forest into a home, by felling trees, building houses and cutting out roads; and all through the season, there was busy work in this wilderness.

The primeval forest rang from morn till eve, with the blows of the ax.

New clearings opened out, and new log houses rolled up on every hand. And the work has gone happily on to this day.

Rustic bedsteads, chairs, tables, and the omnipresent cradle, made their appearance in every house; and industry and ingenuity soon transformed every log cabin into a home.

The winters were safely and comfortably passed by the pioneers. Their fires crackled brightly and the festivities of Christmas time were observed as joyously in this Fireland forest, as in the old far-away home.

One great cause of the success of this country was the active help the women rendered their husbands. Every wife was indeed a helpmeet. She not only did the housework, but helped her husband in the clearings, amid the blackened stumps and logs.

And thus Huron county has ever continued to meet the fondest anticipations of its friends. Its career from the beginning to this day, has been one of con-

stant and unceasing growth, development and progress. It has never taken a step backward.

Those of you who never lived in the backwoods, can have no adequate conception of the vast labor and toil undergone in this wilderness, to create the results which you see all around you. A settler's first years in the woods are a continued fight, hand to hand, with savage nature, for existence. It is pleasant for us today, to look out upon the broad fields, green with the growing crops; but do we know, can we calculate, how many blows of the ax, how many drops of sweat, have been expended in turning each one of these broad acres of land from forest to farm? Huron county's story forms an important chapter in the history of Ohio. That story I would love fully to recount to you step by step on this festal day, when she celebrates her eighty-seventh anniversary.

I would fain tell of its organization, and that of the townships; and of the rise and progress of its churches; the building of its houses of worship; of its schools, and the thorough work they have accomplished; of the establishment of mills and factories; how year after year the forest had been felled, and the chopping of blackened stumps have been transformed into smooth fields of waving grain; how the log cabins have been replaced by substantial and fine residences, large barns, fruitful orchards and bountiful crops. All this I have and much more I would be glad to recite in detail to you, but the sun of this long summer day would set before half could be told, so I will conclude by saying of our pioneer fathers and mothers who sleep in yonder graveyard, that their noble deeds will not be forgotten so long as the history of the Firelands is rehearsed among men.

INDIAN HABITS AND CUSTOMS.

The Indians were always the allies of the British as against Americans, and as to their treachery and deceit all the white settlers could have attested. They professed to be friendly to the pioneers until about the breaking out of the war with Great Britain, when they joined with the English to destroy the whites.

Some of the customs, manners, etc, of the Indians may be of interest here.

The manners, customs, feats, war parties and daily life of these sons of the forest form interesting chapters in aboriginal history. The character of the Indians was largely the result of their lives. They judged and lived by what the senses dictated. They had names and words for what they could hear, see, feel, taste and smell. They had no conceptions of abstract ideas until they learned such from the whites. Hence their language was very symbolical. They could see the sun in its brightness, they could feel his heat; hence they compared the actions of a good man to the glory of the sun, and his fervent energy to the heat of that body. The moon in her brightness, the wind in its fury, the clouds in their majesty, or in their slow, graceful motion through a lazy atmosphere; the grace and flight of the deer; the strength and fury of the bear; the rush or ripple of water as it coursed along the bed of a river, all gave them words whose expressiveness are a wonder and marvel to this day. They looked on the beautiful river that borders the southern shores of our state. Their cabins or wigwams were of two kinds—circular and parallelogram. The former, the true wigwam,

was in use when the whites came to this country. It was made of a number of straight poles driven firmly into the ground, their upper ends being drawn closely together; this formed a kind of a skeleton tent. The squaws plaited mats of thongs, bark or grass, in such a manner as to render them impervious to water. These were spread on the poles, beginning at the bottom, and extending upward. A small hole was left for the egress of smoke from the fire kindled in the center of the wigwam. Around this fire, mats or skins were spread, on which the Indians slept at night, and on which they sat during the day. For a door they lifted one end of the mat, and crept in, letting it fall down behind them. These tents were warm and dry, and generally quite free from smoke. Their fuel was nearly always split by the squaws in the fall of the year, and sometimes kept dry by placing it under an inverted birch-bark canoe. These wigwams were easily moved about from place to place, the labor of their destruction and construction being always performed by the squaws—the beasts of burden among all savage nations. The wigwam was very light, and easily carried about. It resembled the tents of today in shape, and was often superior in point of comfort and protection.

The cabins were more substantial affairs, and were built of poles, about the thickness of a small sized telegraph pole, but were of various sizes, and commonly, about twelve or fifteen feet in length.

The skin of a fat bear was a great prize to an Indian. It made him an excellent couch on which to sleep, or a cloak to wear. His flesh was supposed to impart bravery to those who ate it, hence when dipped in sweetened bear's fat, it was considered an excellent dish, and one often offered to friends. Venison, prepared the same way, was also considered a dish fit for the most royal visitors; a hospitality always extended to all who came to the camp, and if not accepted the donor was sure to be offended.

They used vessels made of elm bark to carry water in. They would strip the bark in the winter season when it would strip or run, by cutting down the tree, and, with a crooked stick, sharp and broad at one end, peel the bark in wide strips, from which they would construct vessels holding two or three gallons each. They would often make over a hundred of these. They cut a sloping notch in the side of a sugar-tree, stuck a tomahawk into the wood at the end of the notch, and, in the dent thus made, drove a long chip or spile, which conveyed the water to the bark vessels. They generally selected the larger trees for tapping, as they considered the sap from such stronger and productive of more sugar. Their vessels for carrying the sap would hold from three to five gallons each, and sometimes, where a large camp was located and a number of squaws at work, using a half-dozen kettles, great quantities of sugar would be made. When the sugar-water would collect faster than they could boil it, they would make three or four large troughs, holding more than a hundred gallons each, in which they kept the sap until ready to boil. When the sugar was made, it was generally mixed with bear's oil or fat, forming a sweet mixture into which they dipped their roasted venison. As cleanliness was not a reigning virtue among the Indians, the cultivated taste of a civilized person would not always fancy the mixture, unless driven to it by hunger. The compound, when made, was generally kept in large bags made of coon skins, or vessels made of bark. The

former were made by stripping the skin over the body toward the head, tying the holes made by the legs with buckskin cords, and sewing securely the holes of the eyes, ears and mouth. The hair was all removed, and then the bag blown full of air, from a hole in the upper end, and allowed to dry. Bags made in this way would hold whiskey, and were often used for such purposes. When they became saturated they were blown full of air again, the hole plugged, and they were left to dry. Sometimes the head was cut off without stripping the skin from it, and the skin of the neck gathered in folds like a purse, below which a string was tied and fastened with a pin. Skin vessels are not indigenous to the natives of America. Corn was their principal crop, and was raised entirely by the squaws. When the season for planting drew near, the women cleared a spot of rich alluvial soil, and dug over the ground in a rude manner with their hoes. In planting the corn they followed lines, to a certain extent, thus forming rows each way across the field. When the corn began to grow, they cultivated it with wonderful industry, until it had matured sufficiently for use.

PIONEER GATHERINGS.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT NORWALK,
OHIO, JUNE 27, 1900, BY A. J. BAUGHMAN, OF MANSFIELD.

It may be interesting to the younger as well as to the older class of people to recall some of the industrial, social and religious gatherings of the pioneers of Ohio.

In the early settlement of the country there were cabin and barn raisings, log-rollings, wood-choppings, corn-huskings, and sewing and quilting parties, and at such gatherings, utility and amusements were usually blended.

Rich and poor then met upon lines of social equality, and the old and the young mingled together in those old-time gatherings.

The pioneers were helpful to each other, not only in "raisings" and "rollings," requiring a force of men, but also in other ways. If a settler was incapacitated from work by sickness or other cause, his neighbors set a day and gathered in force and plowed his corn, harvested his grain, or cut his wood for the winter, as the season or occasion required. And when a pig or a calf or a sheep was killed, a piece of the same was sent to the several families in the neighborhood, each of whom reciprocated in kind, and in this neighborly way all had fresh meats the greater part of the summer.

Corn-huskings were great occasions. Sometimes the corn ears were stripped from the stalks and hauled to a favorable place and put in parallel or semi-circular windrows, convenient for the huskers. Moonlight nights were usually chosen for husking-bees, and sometimes bonfire lights were improvised. After the company gathered, captains were selected who chose the men off into two squads or platoons which competed in the work, each trying to finish its row first. The captain of the winning squad would then be carried around on the shoulders of his men, amid their triumphal cheers, and then the bottle would be passed.



WEST MAIN STREET, NEW LONDON

Women also attended these pioneer gatherings and sometimes assisted at the husking, but more frequently were engaged in the early evening in quilting or sewing, or in helping to prepare the great supper-feast that was served after the work was done.

There was a rule that a young man could kiss a girl for each red ear of corn found at a husking, and it goes without the saying that all the girls were kissed, some of them several times, for it was surprising how many red ears were found—so many, that the number was *prima facie* evidence that some of the boys went to the huskings with their pockets full of red corn ears.

Nearly all the pioneer gatherings wound up after supper with dancing, in which the old joined as well as the young, and when a fiddler could not be obtained, music for the occasion was furnished by some one blowing on a leaf, or by whistling "dancing tunes." The dancing then was more vigorous than artistic, perhaps, for the people were robust in those days, effeminacy not becoming fashionable until later years.

The pioneers were industrious people. The situation required that the men must chop and grub and clear the land ere they could plow and sow and reap. And the women had to card and spin and knit and weave and make garments for their families, in addition to their household work. A pioneer minister's wife in telling about her work upon a certain occasion, said: "I've made a pair of pants and a bed-tick, and washed and ironed, and baked six pies today."

Wool had to be carded into rolls by hand, and after the rolls had been spun into yarn and the yarn woven into flannel, the product of the loom had to be "fulled" into thicker cloth for men's wear. As this was a hand or rather a foot process, it necessitated "fulling" or "kicking" parties. Upon such occasions the web was stretched out loosely on the puncheon floor and held at each end, while men with bared feet sat in rows at the sides and kicked the cloth, while the women poured on warm soapsuds, and the white foam of the suds would often be thrown over both kickers and attendants.

Carding and woolen mills and spinning and weaving factories came later, served their purpose and time, but are no more, and now people go to stores and get "hand-me-down" suits without either asking or caring where or how they were made.

While there were social amusements in pioneer times religious services were not neglected. As there were but few church buildings then camp meetings were frequently held during the summer season. Camp meeting trips were enjoyable outings. The roads to the camp grounds often ran by sequestered farm homes and through shady woodlands, where the rays of the sun shimmered charmingly through leafy tree-tops, and the fragrance of the wayside flowers deliciously perfumed the summer air.

At the camp, white tents in a semi-circle partly surrounded an amphitheater of seats in front of a pulpit canopied by trees. The Creator of heaven and earth reared the columns of those camp cathedrals, along whose bough-spanned dome, soft winds whispered and in whose leafy fretwork birds sang. From the mossy floor flowers sent up their perfume like altar incense, and in accord with place and surroundings, the congregation was wont to sing:

"There seems a voice in every gale,
A tongue in every flower,
Which tells, O Lord, the wondrous tale
Of thy Almighty power!"

At the camp, visitors were received with cordial greetings, for the campers had the warmth of friendship in their hearts and of Christian zeal in their souls, and their frank manner and winsome ways were favorable preludes to the services that followed.

At these camp meetings some of the worshippers would become quite demonstrative at times, for the personal manifestations of joy or devotion differ as much as our natures differ. No two persons give expression in the same way to any human emotion. Religion can come to you only in accordance with your nature, and you can respond to it only in the same way.

Singing was a prominent feature of camp services. It was the old-fashioned singing, without instrumental accompaniment. Singing, such as our dear old mothers sang, and although faulty, perhaps, in note, came from the heart and went to the heart. The singing of today may be more artistically rendered, but it is the old-time songs that comfort us in our sorrow and sustain us in our trials as they come back to us in hallowed remembrance from the years that are past.

PROGRESS AND CHANGES OF THE TIMES.

The pioneers found the country of which Huron is now a part without church, school, market, roads, merchant, mechanic or cultivated acre—if we except a few spots that may have been marked by the rude efforts at tillage by the Indian. Savage beasts and uncivilized men were in deadly conflict throughout the domain of the wilderness. Except when winter withdrew them to their caverns, the earth teemed with venomous and loathsome reptiles. The country was utterly destitute of any of the moral or material resources that bear relation to civilized life. Such, in brief, was its condition when that band of moral heroes, the pioneers, entered the country and grappled with privations and dangers altogether unknown to the generation who now occupy this country, and even to the experience of those who have of late years undertaken the subjugation of the forests west of this. There exists no analogy between the habits and modes of life of those who were backwoodsmen at the commencement of the present century, and those who have peopled the new states and territories of the west. Here, until the opening of an Atlantic market by the completion of the New York and Erie canal, in 1825, there had been no sale of produce except for neighborhood consumption; while westward of this, during the last ten or fifteen years particularly, artificial communications, by means of canals, turnpikes, or railroads, have advanced, almost with the van of the immigrating column, and agriculture, commerce and manufactures, with all the happiness they bestow, have been enjoyed, with the exception of brief delays, by the first populations of the new states and territories. Steam, as an agent of transit alone, has wrought a wonderful revolution in accelerating the dis-

tribution of population and wealth. The pioneers of Huron county made their way hither from their former eastern homes by the tedious process of horse and ox teams, and some even on foot, occupying weeks in their journeys. They were the manufacturers of almost everything they used, including their farming implements and the fabrics with which they were clothed. Their food, also, as well as their raiment, was the exclusive production of their own farms. There were no importations of goods. The modes of pioneer life and their isolation from society did not require imported goods. The early settlers were pioneers and America is the only country which produced pioneers. Other countries were settled by people moving enmasse from one place to another, but here they came singly, each man for himself. In European countries tribes would move in a body and overrun, absorb or extinguish the original inhabitants of a country, dispossess them and occupy their territory. But in America we had the gradual approach of civilization and the gradual recession of barbarism.

When civilization crossed the crest of the Alleghenies, Ohio was looked upon as the garden of the west, and soon various settlements were made in the territory now known as the Buckeye state. Casuists claim that the deer was made for the thicket, that the thicket was made for the deer, and that both were made for the hunter; and in further correlations state that the soil was not only intended for those who would cultivate it, but that if the valley produces corn and the hillside grapes, that people suited to the cultivation of such products take possession of such localities on the theory of the eternal fitness of things.

It is different now with persons who remove to the far west, from what it was with the early settlers in Ashland county. Transportation facilities make a trip to the west a quick and easy matter, and stocks of clothing, farming implements, merchandise and provisions of all kinds can be shipped from the east to the west by railroads, making rapid transits instead of the ox-team trips of the long ago. The privations of Huron county pioneer life were serious situations, compared with those of the early settlers of the west today.

No country settled at and prior to the date of the portion which now forms the state of Ohio, ever had but one race of pioneers—the men who penetrated the wilderness, endured all the hardships incident to its subjugation, and transmitted to their successors the comforts and conveniences of a high civilization. When this class of men pass off a given spot, they disappear for all time; the country which was first redeemed by them will know them nor their like no more forever.

We confess to a feeling of veneration for the characters of those men who penetrated the wilderness and inaugurated civilization and its train of blessings in a region where savages and wild beasts had maintained undisputed empire. The scenes through which they passed are suggestive of rich fields for the genius of the poet and painter, and fields that it is hoped may be hereafter occupied.

In days of yore friends and neighbors could meet together to enjoy themselves, and with hearty good will enter into the spirit of social amusements. The old and young could then spend evening after evening around the firesides with pleasure and profit. There was a geniality of manners then, and a corresponding depth of soul, to which modern society is unaccustomed.

A few years ago, one who had witnessed all the stages of our material development—the gradual redemption from our wilderness condition to our recent full estate of national prosperity—and having himself, by years of industry and economy, gathered about him all the comforts and luxuries of modern life, had an irrepressible longing to be among the men and scenes of by-gone days. He would again become a pioneer in a new country. He sighed particularly for that unbounded hospitality which dissolves—

“As wealth accumulates and men decay.”

He could not, of course, hope to realize those halcyon days except in a new country. He therefore again, old as he was, resolved to sacrifice the comforts and luxuries of his Huron county home—the results of the toil of his own hands—and seek a new one in the west. With this view, he traveled over Iowa, Minnesota, etc. There he found the wilderness, true enough, but he could not find the men. The old race was not there. He discovered an utter absence of all the types and shadows of the pioneer times with which he had been familiar in his early manhood. Instead of the matron and maiden decked in home-made tow-cloth and linsey-woolsey, he found hoops, silks, satins, and an exuberance of vanity and pretension. In place of the large-hearted humanity of the days of yore, he found selfishness, and a race for accumulation even more intensified than had developed itself in the modern times among ourselves. Far beyond the rising tide of population, he found the locomotive and its “train” of vice and social demoralization. Our friend returned home, well persuaded that no condition of society now exists upon the face of the globe that affords a parallel to the times for which he sighed and with which he was once familiar.

EARLY SCHOOLS.

For several years after the first settlement, but little attention was paid to educational matters. The teachers were illiterate, and the school-houses were of the rudest style of architecture. The following description of one will illustrate. It was situated on a knoll about four rods from a fine spring of water in the midst of a dense forest. It was constructed of round logs twelve and sixteen feet long, one story high, with a log across the north end placed about four or five feet high from the floor, and about the same distance from the wall, upon which, and against the end wall, was erected a large stick chimney, plastered with mortar, joined to a stone back wall cemented with the same material.

The roof was made of clapboards that were held in their places by weight poles, which in turn were held by a small log, notched into the ends of the top end logs, and called a butting pole. Not a nail was used. Greased paper was used in place of glass for windows. The ground floor was composed of huge puncheons, faced and jointed by some pioneer with his broadaxe, and laid upon large logs placed in as sleepers. The seats were made from small trees, cut into logs of the proper length and split in two, the bark taken off, and the other side hewn and made smooth; two-inch holes were then bored into the ends and

middle, into which sticks were placed for legs. Holes were bored into the walls on the west side, and the south end, and large wooden supporters placed therein, upon which were laid boards to write upon; then, to complete the structure, the door was made by cutting a hole in the southeast corner of the house, five and one-half by three and one-half feet in dimensions; the same was cased with timber, split, hewn and shaved, and fastened with wooden pins.

A scholar thus described his teacher's personal appearance: "He wore linsey-woolsey pants and home-made linen vest, red flannel warmus, cowhide shoes, the sole and upper leather both of his own tanning, together with overshoes made from sheepskin with the wool on."

As to his pupils, they came from every direction for two miles each way. Some of them six feet in height, all dressed in homespun from head to foot. The young women were also clad in homespun. The books corresponded with other surroundings. A majority of these youngsters went to work with a will, and soon acquired the rudiments of an education, and matured into excellent men and women.

There were always three or four classes in spelling, and this exercise was the last before school was dismissed in the evening. Their old books were conned over year after year until they were worn out and the children grew up to manhood and womanhood, and never knew, and perhaps do not know to this day, what was in the back part of them. That was the kind of a start many a great man had. These schools cannot be despised when it is remembered that the greatest and best of the nation, including such men as Abraham Lincoln, Edwin M. Stanton, and Stephen A. Douglas, were among the boys who attended them.

There was always much competition in the spelling classes as to who should get the "head mark." In the later schools it was the custom that the best speller might stand at the head until he missed, when the one who spelled the word correctly should take his place, and he then stood next to the head; but they did things differently in the earlier schools; the head of the class once gained and held until the last spelling at night, the head mark was received and the lucky scholar then took his place at the foot of the class, to again work his way gradually to the head. These classes sometimes contained thirty or forty scholars, and it was something of an undertaking to get from the foot to the head. Spelling-schools were the beauty and glory of school-days. The scholars were always coaxing the teacher to appoint a night for a spelling school, which he usually did for about two nights in a week.

THE PIONEER PREACHERS OF THE FIRELANDS.

A tribute of praise should be given the pioneer preachers of the Firelands. The Methodist ministers were the first on the Firelands of which we find any record. As early as 1811 the Rev. William Gurley preached in Huron county. It has been written that great was the joy when they heard that a preacher had arrived. At that time there was no minister of the gospel within at least forty miles. No sermon had then been heard in our county, and the news soon spread for many miles around.

A log school house, so recently built, was filled at the hour for worship. It was "Indian summer." The manner in which the audience were dressed was striking enough. The men were mostly dressed in tow shirts, linsey coats or hunting shirts and buckskin pantaloons, and moccasins instead of shoes were extensively worn. Here and there might be seen a vest of spotted fawn-skin made with the fur out, caps made of the skins of the raccoon and muskrat were worn instead of hats. These articles of dress were all of domestic manufacture, and mostly clumsy and uncouth in appearance. The costume of the ladies was almost entirely of home manufacture, except that of those who had recently arrived from the east. A few Indians, attracted by curiosity, were present; they were in their hunting costumes with rifle, tomahawk and knife.

The pioneer preacher's church was the log cabin or the log school house. His pulpit a rude table. His horse and saddle bags were his inseparable companions. In the early conferences it was customary for the bishop to admonish the preachers to "be kind to their beast," and truly these itinerant horses shared with their riders in the arduous toil and struggle connected with planting the gospel. The pioneer preacher's library was a portable library, consisting of a Bible, hymn book, discipline and a few other books, carried in the saddle bags and read on horseback, or by the weird flicker of the pine knot or tallow-candle in the cabin of the pioneer.

Among the preachers of an early day who visited the Firelands were William Gurley, True Pattie, James McIntyre, Harry O. Sheldon and Russel Bigelow. These pioneer preachers have been described as follows:

William Runnels, who always rode the best looking horse on the circuit, and of which animal there was no better judge, was a most interesting and pleasing speaker.

Elder Russel Bigelow, his oratory was of divine inspiration and under his unequalled and soul stirring appeals I have seen people leave their seats and get as near the pulpit as possible, apparently unaware of changing their places. "Such vast impressions did his sermons make, he always kept his flock awake."

Rev. L. B. Gurley was eloquent and his sermons full of pathos, most convincing and often moving to tears.

Rev. Harry O. Sheldon was sublime in his eloquence, of noble bearing, with a voice musical and penetrating, was the type of a missionary.

Rev. William Disbrow, a profound orator and thinker, scholarly and polished, warm of heart and in every way attractive.

In 1817 the Ohio conference of Methodists sent the Rev. Alfred Brunson to the Huron circuit. He thus describes his journey there:

"I was living in Fowler, Trumbull county, Ohio; it was the first week in January, 1818, that I started for my new (Huron) circuit.

"I was clad in homespun, the produce of my wife's industry. My horse and equipage were of the humblest kind. The journey was mostly through a dense forest. I traveled thirty miles before I could find a road leading westward along the lake shore. Where Elyria now stands there was no bridge and I crossed the river on the ice. My circuit extended from Black river along the Ridge road by where Norwalk now stands, then to the little town of New Haven, and thence by a zigzag course to Sandusky bay and Venice and Portland, now San-

dusky city, thence through Perkins, east along the lake shore to the place of beginning. I soon formed a four weeks' circuit of twenty-four appointments with two hundred miles of travel."

The pioneer preacher, with a broad brimmed white hat and round breasted coat, well posed in his easy saddle, was easily recognized as he drew near the log cabin, or the "meeting house," where the congregation was usually in waiting. With saddle-bags on his arm, he pressed through amid the devout worshippers, who would strike up some favorite hymn, making "melody in their hearts, and melody with their voices." Kneeling and offering a silent prayer, the preacher would first unlace his well bespattered leggings, then draw from the saddle-bags his bible and hymn-book.

PIONEER STORIES.

The pioneer stories we heard in our youth are enshrined in our hearts and we recall them with pleasure and sorrow alike.

Many incidents might be enumerated to show that the paths of the pioneers were not strewn with roses, and many of the comforts which they enjoyed later in life were obtained by persevering exertions, industry, and economy on their part and the people of today can form but an imperfect idea of the privations and hardships endured by the pioneers of Ohio.

In the early pioneer time a neighbor at the distance of ten miles was considered near enough for all social purposes.

The first work of the newcomer was to select a location, then to cut poles or logs suitable to build a cabin for his family. The dimensions of the structure were according to the size of the family.

After the house was completed, the next thing in order was to clear off a tract of ground for a corn and potato patch. They usually plowed new ground with a shovel-plow, on account of the roots, and the harness for the horses was often made of leather-wood. Corn was ground on a hand mill or pounded in a mortar or hominy block. It was then sieved and the meal or finer portion was used for bread and the coarser for hominy. Their meat was venison, bear and wild turkey, as it was difficult to raise hogs or sheep on account of the wolves and bear, which made pork and mutton scarce. Wolf scalps were worth from four dollars to six dollars a piece, which rendered wolf hunting a paying business.

The pioneers were a generous, warmhearted and benevolent people. Although they did not want to see the game driven away by a too rapid settlement of the country, yet when a new settler came, they extended him a cordial welcome. There was social equality then—distinction in society came later.

People went miles to assist in house and barn raisings and in log-rollings, while the men were doing this work the women were doing quilting or sewing. Bountiful meals were served at these gatherings, chicken-pot-pie being the principal part of the bill of fare. These pot-pies were usually cooked in big iron kettles out of doors. After the day's work was done, the evening was passed in social amusement—dancing being quite popular. If they had no fiddler, music was furnished by some one singing or whistling "dancing tunes."

Weddings were the great occasions of those days and brought old and young together, the festivities lasting two days. The wedding ceremony took place at the home of the bride and the second day was the "infair" at the home of the groom.

Although there were many dangers and great privations in pioneer life, there was happiness, also. In later years, the early settlers often referred to that period as "happy days of primitive simplicity."

The pioneers would take hickory bark torches and go a mile or more to call upon a neighbor and enjoy a winter evening in cracking nuts and telling stories, ending with refreshments being served in the form of a hot supper. Cooking utensils were few, and a pot or kettle often had to be used for several purposes in the preparation of a meal.

An anecdote will illustrate how prolific the pioneers were in expedients. Neighbors, who lived about two miles apart, with a creek between them, had arranged for a visit on a certain day. When the visiting party got to the stream they saw that the freshet had washed away the foot-log and as they stood in perplexity, wondering how to cross, the neighbors whom they were going to visit, came with his yoke of oxen and mounting the "near" ox, forded the stream and the woman, Europa-like, sprang upon the back of the "off" ox and was soon landed in safety upon the other bank of the creek. Another trip and the man was also taken across. Upon their return in the evening the stream was again forded in like manner.

Johnny Appleseed was present upon one occasion when an itinerant preacher was holding forth to an audience at the public square in Mansfield. Johnny was lying upon some boards near the outskirt of the crowd, when the preacher, who was speaking against the sin of fashion, exclaimed, "Where is the bare-footed Christian traveling to heaven?" Taking the question in a literal sense, Johnny responded, "here he is," and raised his bare feet in the air.

Johnny Appleseed's death was in harmony with his unostentatious and blameless life. It is often remarked how beautiful is the Christian's life; yea, but far more beautiful is the Christian's death! Those who were with Johnny at his last moments, stated that as the end drew near "the fashion of his countenance was altered;" that a smile wreathed his thin lips as they moved in prayer, and that a halo seemed to crown him with the glory of a saint as he passed "from death unto life," from the life here to the life there.

In olden time the rich and the poor dressed much alike, the men generally wore hunting shirts and buckskin pants; the women wore dresses made of linen and flannel goods, spun and woven by their own hands.

The school houses were in keeping with the cabins and the times and the pedagogues who instructed the youths in the mysteries of the three R's—"readin,' 'ritin' an' 'rithmetic," as the London Alderman put it, was called "master." The scholar whose "ciphering" included the "rule of three" was considered well advanced.

There were "puncheon" bench seats and wooden pins were put in the logs at the side of the room, and upon these a board was placed for writing desks and the preparatory course in writing was to make "pot-hooks" and "hangers." There were no classes, except in spelling, as there was no uniformity in the books used.



Y. M. C. A., CHICAGO, OHIO

They pronounced syllables then and when they had learned to read, could read anything.

The scholars, old and young, went bare-footed in warm weather and so did the teacher. The school-master carried a long hickory rod as an insignia of his position and with which he often enforced his authority, for the pioneer did not believe in spoiling the child by sparing the rod.

While the old-time schools may be looked back to as inferior to those of today, yet they were the schools in which our Calhouns, our Clays and our Websters were educated.

Times change and we change with them, but the fount of childhood is perennially fresh and there are little sunburnt, rosy-cheeked boys and girls who now fill our better appointed school rooms, as the children of the past did in their day and generation.

Religious services were frequently held at the homes of the settlers, even after houses for public worship had been erected. In the summer time the "threshing floor" of barns were often used as "meeting houses" for Sunday preaching. Camp meetings were also features of that period.

In narrating deeds of valor of the pioneers, it is well to state again that the women not only shared the dangers of those troublous times, but often displayed heroism and deeds of daring equal to those of the bravest of the brave. One instance is all I now have space to cite—that of Elizabeth Zane, sister of Colonel Zane.

At the siege of Wheeling in 1782 the supply of ammunition became almost exhausted, and it became necessary to renew it from Col. Zane's quarters, forty rods distant. Miss Zane volunteered to accomplish the hazardous feat. She was from Philadelphia, was highly educated and had only a few weeks' experience in border life and warfare. She was young and active, with courage to brave the danger and fortitude to sustain her through it.

Brave soldiers stepped forward and insisted that they be sent on the errand, declaring the lady should not undertake such a dangerous exploit. But Miss Zane disdained to weigh the hazard of her own life against that of others and claimed that a woman would not be missed in the defense of the fort, but that every man was needed. The grandeur of her heroism and the eloquence of her appeal to be permitted to serve her country at the last won her case, and as the gate was thrown open, she bounded forth with the buoyancy of hope and in the confidence of success. An account of the adventure says that the Indians startled in amazement and exclaimed "A squaw! a squaw!" but made no attempt to interrupt or harm her.

Arriving safely at her brother's fortress, she made her errand known, and, getting all the ammunition she should carry, started upon her return trip. But the Indians were no longer passive. They fired volley after volley at her and the bullets riddled her clothing, but her person was unharmed. She reached the fort in safety and by her intrepidity and daring the army was saved.

Miss Zane's brother was the founder of Zanesville. The town was laid out in 1799 and was first called Westbourn, a name which it continued to bear until a postoffice was established under the name of Zanesville and the village then took that name.

HUNTING IN THE EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Hunting occupied a large portion of the time of the pioneers. Nearly all were good hunters, and not a few lived almost entirely for many years on the results of the chase. The woods supplied them with the greater amount of their subsistence, and often the whole of it; it was no uncommon thing for families to live several months without a mouthful of bread of any kind. It frequently happened that the family went without breakfast until it could be obtained from the woods.

The fall and early part of winter was the season for hunting deer, and the whole of the winter, including part of the spring, for bears and fur-bearing animals. It was a customary saying that fur was good during every month, in the name of which the letter *r* occurred.

As soon as the leaves were pretty well down, and the weather became rainy, accompanied with light snow, the pioneer hunter, who had probably worked pretty faithfully on his clearing during the summer, began to feel uneasy about his cabin home; he longed to be off hunting in the great woods. His cabin was too warm; his feather-bed too soft; his mind was wholly occupied with the camp and the chase. Hunting was not a mere ramble in pursuit of game, in which there was nothing of skill and calculation; on the contrary, the hunter, before setting out in the morning, was informed by the state of the weather in what situation he might reasonably expect to find his game; whether on the bottoms, on the hillsides, or hilltops. In stormy weather the deer always seek the most sheltered places, and the leeward sides of the hills; in rainy weather, when there was not much wind, they kept in the open woods, on high ground. In the early morning, if pleasant, they were abroad, feeding in edges of the prairie or swamp; at noon they were hiding in the thickets. In every situation, it was requisite for the hunter to ascertain the course of the wind, so as to get to leeward of the game; this he often ascertained by placing his finger in his mouth, holding it there until it became warm, then holding it above his head, and the side that first cooled indicated the direction of the wind.

These hunters needed no compass; the trees, the sun and stars took its place. The bark of an aged tree is much thicker and rougher on the north side than on the south; and the same may be said of the moss; it is much thicker and stronger on the north than on the south side of the tree; hence he could walk freely and carelessly through the woods and always strike the exact point intended, while any but a woodsman would have become bewildered and lost.

PIONEER BOYHOOD ON THE FIRELANDS.

BY J. O. CUNNINGHAM.

Paper read before the Firelands Historical Society, Norwalk, June 27, 1900, and published in the Firelands Pioneer a few months later.

I have been asked to come from my home in Illinois to meet the few remaining Pioneers of the Firelands and such of their descendants as may assemble here, for the purpose of indulging in reminiscences of the long past, which cover the boy-

hood days of many of us, and which are a part of the history of this, our boyhood home.

Although almost half a century intervenes between the present and the bright morning in August, 1852, when my father, with his two-horse wagon, transported two of his boys, with their trunks, containing their few worldly possessions, to the nearest railroad station, for the purpose of taking the train for a distant state, and thereby, in fact, forever terminating our relations to Huron county as home, yet this visit, and the occasion of it, awakens emotions and recollections shared perhaps by none of you who have yet to sever your connection with the homes of your childhood.

"It brings me to my childhood back,
As if I trod its very track,
And felt its very gladness."

But to the story which I am to relate: The eighth day of June, 1833, terminated the journey of two immigrant families, the heads of which were brothers, from an eastern state to the Firelands, in far away Ohio. Such it seemed to those families before they started and to their friends left behind, and such they realized it to be before they had completed their journey. A steam craft on Lake Erie had furnished the transportation to the port of Huron, while, after time spent in prospecting by the heads of the families, ox teams did the remainder of the work of landing the families, of one of which the boy to whose experience you are asked to listen was a member, near the prospective home in the forests of Clarksfield.

This journey of twenty-five miles made through Berlin, Florence and Wakeman, to the center of Clarksfield, was not made over the good roads and easy grades now to be found, but over traces of roads then newly cut out or blazed through the forests, with no bridges over many of the streams and no artificial drainage. Those who remember the vile reputation of "Wakeman Woods," of that day, will not be at a loss to fully appreciate the horrors of that journey. No wonder that the young mothers turned their thoughts many times with tearful eyes to the homes they had left.

The family did not find a ready-made farm house, of comfortable capacity, with the accompaniments of barn and out houses, orchard and garden in which to rest its weary and travelworn members. It did not find friends who had gone before and who were ready to open hospitable doors to the newcomers and make easy their settlement and welcome their coming. What they did find was an unbroken, heavy forest of beech, maple, walnut, oak and other kinds of timber, such as bid a mad defiance to the pioneers all over Ohio at the beginning of the century.

The kindness of a pioneer family which had preceded this family to the depths of this forest by a few months, gave shelter to the unsheltered for six weeks and until an opening in the forest upon the site of the future home could be made and a house could be erected. This house was, of course, of logs, but care was taken that they should be straight logs, and that they should be nicely notched at the corners and smoothly hewn on the inside, as they were placed in position, so that the new house, though covered only with elm bark at the first, was both presentable and comfortable. Think of it, dear housekeepers, the first fireside of this family, where the mother cooked for many months, was beside a large stump, near the

door, with no covering over it save that furnished by the native forests left with a purpose.

This house being finished (and it is remembered that the particular house had neither closed windows nor door during the first summer, nor until frosts and cold winds of autumn made them necessary), the next thing to be done was with fire and ax and strong arms to drive back the domain of the forest and make room for the field which was to produce the living. This was a slow process and occupied the labors and efforts of years.

One of the pioneer preachers herein named, in 1866, thirty-three years after the immigration of the family to Clarksfield, conducted the funeral services of the father, Hiram W. Cunningham, and in the biographical notice of the deceased given, said that he had personally chopped, burned and cleared one hundred acres of Clarksfield's heavy timber. Year by year the cleared circle became larger and the demand for cribs and a barn more imperative.

The first year of course, yielded no returns for the family support. The limited amount of money brought as a result of the sale of the little farm in York state, was all used up in paying the expense of removal or in making the first payment on the purchased land, so the family must be fed and clothed by some other means. No resources remained other than the hands of the father, which were skilled in carpentry and wood craft of other kinds, and the grinding needs of the immigrant family for many years made the requisitions upon this resource continuous and exacting. So, for several years, and until fruitful fields occupied the space of the primeval forest, the day's work of the father furnished the food of the family from year to year.

The boy well remembers the first attempt at corn and wheat raising among the green stumps of a patch just cleared of the timber where no plow could be used, or if used, could live an hour. The corn was planted, not with a check-row corn planter, nor with a hoe, even, but with an ax, which was driven through the roots into the virgin soil a few inches, the corn dropped in and the ground closed over the seed by the foot. No cultivation could be given it other than by chopping out the fire weeds, but the hot sun and the rich soil did the work, and the returns well repaid the effort. In the fall the removal of the corn made way for a seeding of wheat. In this manner the pioneer provided for his table.

The satisfaction felt by the pioneer in eating from his first crop, produced under the difficulties here delineated, cannot be well told, even by one who has realized it, any more than it can be realized by one who has not passed through the experience. The capitalist may say to himself, "Soul, thou hast much good laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry," but his satisfaction does not approach the happiness of the pioneer, who, having cleared the forest, has demonstrated his capacity to produce a crop.

Being thus established in a home, which for most of the time intervening between the date here given and the legal majority of the boy in question, was his only home, made better year by year as the means were secured, let us look at the surroundings:

Clarksfield had then been settled sixteen years only, and everything was new, in the town as well as in the adjoining towns. Smith Starr, Benjamin Stiles, Samuel Husted, and possibly some others, had moved "out of the old house into the

new" frame and plastered house, but other than the very few lived in their pioneer houses, similar to the one above described. The Rowlands, Barnums, Woods, Furlongs, Bissells, Clarks, Grays, Days, Lees, Blackmans, Smiths, Perceys and nearly all of the population of the township had progressed no further than the log-house stage of civilization. These houses were generally built in the most primitive style of architecture of that day, with log gables, roofs held in place by log weight poles, instead of by the use of nails, doors hung on wooden hinges, with wooden latches, which obeyed the pull on the leathern string from the outside. With puncheon or slab floors and well-chinked and an annual "daubin'," the home could defy the elements without, and by the aid of a fire upon the hearth of the wide fireplace, built of rocks gathered from the fields or from the river bed, supporting a mud and stick chimney, the home was made comfortable at all times. Before these fires were cooked and served the homely meals, and around them were gathered as happy families as now gather around the anthracite fires in the elegant houses which have succeeded these pioneer homes.

The clearings were small and mostly confined to the neighborhood of the "Hollow," where the first settlement of the town was made, or along the roads leading therefrom, and to go to Florence or Norwalk, one must encounter the horrors of the roads, or trails, which served for roads, leading through "Wakeman Woods," or "Townsend Woods," terms which, even at this distance of time, awaken a shudder.

The boy remembers a night spent in a mud hole with his parents in the road leading from Norwalk to Clarksfield, about April, 1836, when an almost empty wagon was too much for the team, and it was only after daylight, the next morning, that aid came and enabled us to release ourselves by doubling teams. The good roads now leading to Florence and to Norwalk from Clarksfield, through fruitful fields bordered by beautiful homes, give no intimation of the terrors that awaited the traveler along the same lines sixty-five years since.

The only roads that existed in the town of Clarksfield at the period written about, which had the semblance of roads or deserved the name, were those leading north, south and east of the Hollow, and these were yet much bordered by woods, and in many places were of the very primitive corduroy character. Other roads, or what are now known as public highways, in the town, were not then even "chopped out," with few exceptions, and neighborhood trails across lots and through the woods were permitted by tolerant settlers as favors to those who, like our family, had essayed to settle back from the settlements before then made. It is remembered that the families spoken of only reached their leafy, primeval home, at Clarksfield center, by leaving the main road a half mile east of the Hollow, and by following ax-men, who went before the wagons and cut out a trail. It was many years after this time that the roads were so improved as to be passable for teams and wagons, and not until after 1850, were the roads leading south and west from the center of the town, anything more than trails, once chopped out and partly grown up with briars and other impediments. It was a long time, and only after the roads were bordered by enclosed fields, that they were made passable their entire length, and it was unnecessary for the traveler to make detours here and there to avoid the swamps and swales which so often intruded across the roads. The corduroy period was a long one, and the higher duty of the settler to provide

himself and family a shelter and food before he found time to make roads, kept these necessary appliances of civilization waiting many years.

Bridges over the two confluent of the Vermillion river were then few and of an ephemeral character. The substantial stone and steel structures which now span those beautiful streams, not only command admiration as triumphs of engineering skill, but they serve to bring back recollection of early efforts at bridge building. Where were once long stretches of corduroy passage ways over the black alder swamps, are now seen single stone culverts, which serve to bridge the murky waterway formerly so dreaded by the pioneer.

At the period indicated there was no house of worship in the township, nor in any adjoining townships, though worshippers were not wanting; for no district of country within the nation was more largely settled by religious people than was the tract of country known as the Firelands. The pioneer school houses, the scantily furnished cabins, and the leafy forests were made to do duty as places of religious worship to meet the want of the settlers of which their self-imposed banishment from older homes had deprived them.

Among the most lasting and thrilling recollections of the boy whose story this is, are those connected with those primitive gatherings. Take the scene of a few settlers gathered up from the scattered settlements, connected only by forest trails, in one of these pioneer log school houses, where the only furniture was that manufactured by the help of an ax, saw and auger from the outer slab of a saw log; where the log structure, dedicated to learning and the arts, was made without the use of a nail or article of iron, and was as free from metals in its construction as was King Solomon's temple; where one side of the little room was devoted to the fireplace, and its walls made impenetrable to the cold winds by the "chinkin' and the daubin'," but where the hearts of the gathered worshippers were one in sympathy and love to the Maker, and their speaker, a circuit rider or exhorter, fired by the love of souls, in loud and electrifying appeals called upon the sinner and the backslider to repent while the opportunity yet remained; where the effect of these appeals brought the careless and the scoffer to their knees and led wicked men to better lives—these scenes, now no longer to be seen, left impressions upon the beholders not to be forgotten.

In the way of religious gatherings of that day, the boy remembers most vividly the camp meetings, now known to the people of this day only in tradition. One in Clarksfield in 1837, one in Wakeman in 1841, and one in Rochester in 1846, came under his observation and will serve as typical of the class. These meetings were generally arranged to come off after haying, late in the summer or early in the fall, when worldly cares were less likely to distract attention. A piece of native forest was chosen, where good drainage with shade and water were to be had. A plat of two or three acres or more was cleared of the underbrush and the ground smoothed and leveled; at one end of the plat was erected the preachers' tent, facing inward, at the front of which was a stand for speakers, under cover. Upon the other three sides were erected tents or cabins to answer for the accommodation of the people. In front of the preachers' stand was an enclosure of seats for from fifty to one hundred people, the enclosure being formed by poles placed upon posts or crotches set in the ground. The purpose of this enclosure was for the accommodation of circles for prayer and for those seeking

after the light of religious experience, which we might call the anxious seat, but which the irreverent of those days called the "bull-pen." Beyond this enclosure were seats for hearers, made by placing slabs or planks across supports of logs and timbers, arranged so as to provide aisles leading towards the preachers' stand. To these tents people came from many miles around, bringing beds, furniture and provisions for a week's outing, and here were carried on all the household arts for a comfortable stay. Cooking was done by open fires in the rear of the tents, and sleeping accommodations made upon piles of clean straw and bed clothing within the apartments of the tents. The tin horn at the preachers' tent served the purpose of a "church going bell," in calling the people from their tents to the general auditorium for the several services, and laggards in the tents met the severe reprimand of the "preacher in charge." Rules were enacted for the government of the encampment and severely enforced.

To these gatherings came all sorts of people for all sorts of purposes. Religious exercises and experiences were not the only incentives. There came the gossip, the curiosity seeker, fun lover and the horse trader. There came the sincere religionist, yearning for the salvation of his neighbor, and there came the irreverent scoffer of things held sacred by the other class. The gatherings were not always characterized by the sanctity that pervades church-going assemblies of this day, but frequently made work for the grand juries. In other cases the disorders created by the irreverent were informally and promptly treated on the grounds to doses of muscular Christianity from an athletic preacher or muscular layman, a remedy swifter than that afforded by the law and generally more effective.

It is far easier now to describe the organization and proceedings of such a gathering than to accurately measure the effects upon the participants. The measure of one relates to Time, while the effects of the other can only be known in Eternity. Many who came to scoff and ridicule, left the grounds rejoicing in a new life, and here steps in the religious life were commenced which terminated only in a hopeful death.

These school houses and camp meetings produced or furnished the arena of action of such eminent pioneer preachers of the Firelands as Leonard B. Gurley, William B. Disbrow, James McIntire, James A. Kellum, John Mitchell, Adam Poe, James McMahan, Richard Biggs, H. O. Sheldon, Russell Bigelow, E. R. Jewett, Thomas Barkdull, William C. Pierce, of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Revs. Betts and Streeter, of the Presbyterian church; Rev. David Marks and Rev. Fairfield, of the Baptist church, as well as many others whose names are remembered by the descendants of the pioneers with reverence.

Most of these men were from time to time in the early days guests at the home of the family in question, and the boy remembers of having heard most of them from the pulpit or the desk of the school house.

In this connection it may be said that it is probable that Sunday schools were organized and carried on upon the Firelands at an early day, for as early as 1836, at Clarksfield Hollow, a school was in operation, conducted by members of different denominations. I remember being in this school at its beginning for that season; remember that Rev. Streeter was at the head of it, and the lesson of the

day, which will be found at Matt. III., 1-6, beginning: "In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea."

The library in use is remembered for its utter want of adaptation to the needs of children. Instead of being of such a character of matter as children would become interested in, its books treated upon the most severe and sober theological questions, such as children of no time take to.

A Sunday school celebration held near Berlin chapel, between Berlinville and Florence, on July 4, in the year 1843, is remembered by this particular boy for the many children it called together from all of the surrounding towns, the pretty address delivered by Mr. Dwight, and particularly for the good things we had to eat.

CLOTHING OF THE PIONEER.

The clothing in which the pioneer boy was clad was not tailor-made, nor was it even hand-me-down, ready-made clothing, but the result of the summer work and the cunning skill of his mother's fingers, which worked early and late. In the spring of each year a crop of flax was sown, and at maturity was pulled, rotted, broken in the flax-brake and hatched by the men folks, when it was ready to be carded, spun and woven into cloth, called "tow and linen," for the next year's clothing. So of the wool of the few sheep kept. The price of wool in the markets of the country was not then a burning question as now; the limited supply was scarcely sufficient for the domestic wants of the families of the pioneer. The supply was either carded into bats at home or carried to the woolen mill and made into "rolls," ready for the spinning wheel. The same mother's hands spun it into yarn ready for the weaver or ready for her winter's knitting into socks. The spun yarn, dyed in butternut or blue dye, sufficed for the "filling," in a web, which was of cotton yarn, and the product was known as "jeans." The weaver's work done, the same mother's nimble fingers cut, fitted and made the tow and linen or the jeans into coats, pants and vests for the boys.

As time passed on and the family became more forehanded, which meant, had more sheep and other stuff and something to sell in the market, the cloth was made of all wool and went to the cloth dresser for fulling and dressing, and came home shining like broadcloth. Here came the need of the tailor, who cut the cloth ready for the itinerant sewing woman, and the boy came out in a suit of "fulled cloth," with shining brass buttons. So the work of clothing the boys developed from year to year until maturity enabled him to dress in "store clothes" from his own earnings.

It was not always that the last year's suit lasted well until this year's suit made it appearance, in which case the boy, in the interim between the passing away of the former and the coming of the latter, might have passed for Riley's "Raggedy Man." It must have been during one of these destitute periods that the mother in question, ever alert to the needs of the children, wrote to her mother in the east, in a letter dated November 17, 1839, the original of which came to the hands of your essayist a few years since, and is now preserved with the greatest care, as follows: "We have raised our living this season, and it seems much better than to buy it and not know where it is to come from. Our children are well, but very ragged,—not having any wool of late, we are quite



PUBLIC SCHOOL, NEW LONDON, OHIO

destitute of clothing. You wrote you had sent me some stocking yarn, but I have not received it yet. If I could get it I would make my fingers fly."

This letter was sealed with a red wafer. It bears the postmark of Clarksfield, November 29, and is charged with eighteen and three-fourths cents postage. Letters patent of nobility from a sovereign king or emperor would not be prized higher. It gives a phase of family and pioneer history not to be forgotten. It convicts the pioneer boy of once having belonged to a crowd of "very ragged" children, but it brings no blush.

Boots and shoes were not brought to the pioneer home ready made and in assortments sure to meet all demands. Hides, taken from animals killed for family supplies of meat, or, more often, hides taken from domestic animals dying from the murrain, were taken to the near by tannery, dressed into leather and were, by the neighboring shoemaker, made up into boots and shoes for the family, with the emphasis upon the word *shoes* for, as a matter of true history, the pioneer boy in question never possessed the greatly coveted boots until he was permitted to earn them by work for a neighbor, at thirteen years of age.

SCHOOLS.

For years after the period of this writing, the settlement in question had no school, and the only school opportunities were obtained by sending the children to neighboring districts, the tenure of which privileges to us outsiders depending upon the demands made by children within the districts. Long tramps through the woods and through swamps spanned by fallen trees only, was the price paid by the children for the instruction received by them. Finally, in the spring of 1840, a truly pioneer school house came to the doors of this family, and its description may be taken as that of pioneer school houses throughout Ohio and the west. It was built, not by direct taxes levied and collected in due course of law, nor by the issue of bonds, as would now be done, perhaps; but by the combined labors of the men in the district, voluntarily given. On a given day, by appointment, all turned out with axes and teams, and from the contiguous woods cut the logs, hauled them to the site of Bissell's Corners, and within a few days had erected a log building about twenty by twenty-five feet in size. The gables were of logs and the roof of shakes, or boards, as they are sometimes called, rived with a frow from an oak tree, and held in place upon the roof by overlaying each course of the roofing with a heavy weight pole.

Openings were cut in the logs, at appropriate places, for the windows and door. At one end a wide fireplace, without jambs, capable of receiving wood six or seven feet in length, was provided. This fireplace was built of boulder stones, picked up in the neighborhood, and served as a foundation for a stick and mud chimney terminating above the roof. In this fireplace were piled large quantities of wood in winter, and the fires served well to heat the room. The door was of rough sawed boards, hung upon wooden hinges and held shut by a wooden latch. The windows, while supplied with sash for glazing, were, as the boy well remembers, only covered with greased paper at the first term of the school, taught in the summer of 1840. Floors of rough sawed lumber were laid. This building, each autumn during its service, had to be daubed with mud

to keep out the cold. The furniture consisted of benches made without backs, from slabs, or the outer cuts from saw logs, supported by legs driven into auger holes. For a writing desk for the larger pupils, a wide board, supported by heavy sticks driven into a log, at the proper height, at one end of the room, did duty.

Within such a house as this your pioneer boy and the children of his district were taught from Webster's Elementary Spelling Book, from Murray's English Reader, and from Daboll's Arithmetic, and other antiquated primary books for three months each winter for ten years, beginning with the year 1840. Near by were the woods and the river and the ample play grounds. Let no one waste any sympathy upon these children on account of this apparent dearth of opportunity. The defects in the opportunity are only apparent and made so by a comparison with the schools of the Firelands of today. That district never added a single man or woman to the ranks of illiteracy. Out of one enrollment of thirty-five pupils, now before the writer, more than one-half, after nearly sixty years, are known to be in life. No one of that company ever entered the ranks of the criminal class. So let no one despise these antecedents of this particular boy, for be assured he does not, but glories in them, for from such surroundings came the Lincolns and the Garfields of loved American fame.

From out of these humble surroundings, which may be said to be typical school environments of the great majority of schools upon the Firelands in their beginning, came pupils armed with that best of qualifications, self-respect and self-reliance. Came also healthy young men and women, taught in the atmosphere of morality and patriotism, to bless society here and in other states.

In this semi-isolated life, cut off from the far-off outer world, its faint echoes hardly touched this particular family. Books were few, and for many months no newspaper visited the circle. From year to year the only changes were the changing seasons. They waited for the spring with eager longing, for it brought the sugar-making season, so loved by the youth; it brought with it the flowers, natural to our woods, and unlocked its treasures of life.

It may be said with propriety that the schools of the Firelands, from the first, though humble in their pretensions, were fostered by an enlightened and intelligent public sentiment. The pioneer, though poor, and from a poor New England or New York home, was not illiterate.

Your pioneer boy, like the school boys of today, improbable as it may appear from the opportunities and surroundings above given, had ambition, and this passion pointed to the Norwalk Seminary, as the object to be attained. His few visits to the county capital, always looked upon with greater favor than a visit to Europe with the Paris exposition as a part of the attraction, would now be viewed, were always more desired by him, for the reason that he could look upon the seminary and indulge his fancies as to his future in that temple of learning; but alas for human ambitions, for before the proper time came the seminary was a thing of the past, and he had to be satisfied with Berea and Oberlin.

He is in error who supposes that the poverty of opportunity herein delineated as the lot of the pioneer and his family was an unmixed evil. Poverty in no case is without some compensating benefits. The honest efforts of him who

suffers from poverty to overcome its inconveniences, strengthens and builds up his character and renders him stronger for the conflicts of life.

The spirit of unrest by which this age and the century from which we are about to pass has been so much influenced, invaded the woods of the Firelands in those years of which we write, and seized upon the boys then as it does now. Here, then, now, and always, as Willis has expressed it,

"Ambition seeks the chamber of the gifted boy,
And lifts the humble window and comes in."

And more than that it has lifted him out of this and other more eastern states, and that boy and his girl are moving beyond the Mississippi. The west is sapping the east of its best material, and if the fathers and mothers of the latter are asking themselves, "Where is my boy tonight?" the answer comes back from the far west, "He is here and is building up empires."

AMUSEMENTS.

Did the boys of that day have any fun, do you ask? Certainly. A healthy boy will manufacture his own amusements, if he does not have to work too hard. The boys of those times were mustered into the ranks of labor at an early age say at ten or eleven years of age, and made to contribute to the common weal of the family; yet on rainy days fishing was permissible, when it rained too hard for work. So at night, after having performed all the work during the day that an ingenious father could get from a rather unwilling boy, fishing parties were common to the mill ponds. Husking bees, coon huntings, logging bees, and house or barn raisings, called the young men and boys together.

It may seem to the boy of today, who, with his surroundings of a beautiful country home, a farm productive of everything necessary, as well as of many luxuries, where the labors of the farm are so largely performed by machinery, with the facilities for excursions to distant places, and with frequent trips upon the lake; with concerts and lectures and theaters and conventions the year round, that he has all the fun, and that we of sixty years ago must have had only a dull round. Not so. While we combated roots and stumps in the soil, where the boy of today plows with no obstruction, while riding his plow, we had before us the virgin forests, an open book and a museum of unfailing resources of amusement. They furnished the small game, which we delighted to hunt, in abundance. They furnished nuts of every variety, delicious wild fruits and mandrakes and slippery-elm bark. They furnished the materials for his stilts, his dart, his pop-gun, his whistles, and his bows and arrows, as the season for each of these sports came around. Then the boy of long ago had the fun of chopping down little trees, before chopping became a daily task, and of seeing them fall, a pastime of pleasure unalloyed, except by the admonition from his seniors to "cut close to the ground."

Then the streams, little and big, now so nearly dried up in summer, ran high all the year round, and never failed to furnish amusements of the rarest kind. In winter the boy sported upon the ice of the river or skated, if he owned the skates, and in summer he fished or bathed in the water or guided his raft or skiff there-

on. No delight in the world is so welcome to a boy as to spend half of his time on a warm summer day in the water at his favorite swimming hole. I see it now, at the bend in the river, embowered by a spreading elm tree's shade, made more dense and welcome by the wild grapevine which has year by year clambered up its rugged sides. The noon hour of the school day afforded the time, and the disposition was never wanting. Since that experience, in the long past, the Hoosier poet, who knew the joys of the "Old Swimmin' Hole," as the Clarksfield boy knew it, has put the whole story in poetic dialect:

"Oh, the old swimmin' hole. In the happy days of yore,
When I ust to lean above it on the old sickamore,
My shadder shinin' up at me with such tenderness.
But them days is past and gone, and old Time's tuck his toll
From the old man come back to the old swimmin' hole."

Yes, the old man has come back. He finds the river here, but the locus of the old swimmin' hole has yielded to the shifting sand bank; the old sycamore has also passed away, as have the boy playmates, without whose presence the visit is almost a blank.

The pioneer boy had little money, in fact he hardly saw enough of it to recognize the different denominations of the currency of the day. This was largely due to the fact that there was little money in the country. Business was largely carried on by barter. A pound of butter would buy a pound of cut nails. Two pounds of butter would buy a shilling hat. A good horse could be bought for from twenty five dollars to fifty dollars, and a cow for ten dollars. The little money that came into the family in big copper cents, sixpences and shillings, for dimes and half-dimes were rarely seen, had to be carefully saved for tax-paying time. In fact the boy had little use for money. Shows rarely came this way, and a part of our religious teachings was to the effect that a show that had a round ring in the tent, whatever else it may have had, was awfully wicked. The railroads of the day, all of which were corduroy roads, always gave free excursions, the passenger carrying his own lunch.

The gayest of all the year with the boys was the day known as "Trainin' Day," when the militia of the town were called out for drill. The bright red and blue colors of the privates' and non-commissioned officers' uniforms dazzled the eye of the boy; but the finer uniform of the captain and lieutenants, as they marshaled the men to the stirring music of the fife and drum, or by sharp commands put them through the manual of arms, drove his senses into something like a stupor. The grand event of the day was when the colonel, if he happened to be a near by dweller, gay in his iridescent garb of gray and gold, galloped upon the parade ground, surrounded by his staff, and in thundering tones gave orders to the battalion, which moved the men as a piece of machinery and terrorized and almost froze the heart of the dazed lad from the back woods. The movements of Sherman's army before Atlanta, or of Grant's in the Wilderness, could not have been more bewildering.

Some here will remember the coming through the county of the straggling recruits for the so-called "patriots' war," the uprising of a few disappointed men in Canada, in 1837, with arms and pieces of artillery, as does the writer, and of the

alarm all felt at the prospect of a border war with Great Britain, growing out of the affairs upon the border at Niagara river. These alarms, with the calling out of the enrolled militia in 1846, when men were wanted for the Mexican war, were such as to awaken the martial spirit of the people and to set the boys at school to playing soldier.

The presence in Clarksfield of two water gristmills and sawmills at the time this story begins made life there much more desirable at that time. The prime question was to get something to grind. With that the boys had nothing to do and little concern; but the going to mill upon an ox sled with a little grist of grain, the operation of grinding the grist between the two great stones, the delivery by the dusty miller of the prepared flour or meal, and the great, wide mill pond were matters, once seen, to be told and talked over for a month and never to be forgotten by the boy whose experiences and observations had then been so limited. Later on in life, when his muscles and discretion could be trusted to do the business, the boy was himself made the supercargo of a grist of grain on its way to the mill. The grist was equally divided by the parental hand, one-half in one end of the sack and one-half in the other end, thrown across the horse, and the boy mounted on top, with directions to use care in balancing the grist, and he was dispatched upon the errand. That boy has the most rueful recollections of his experiences of the grist falling from the horse in the woods road, away from help, and of his agonizing tears at the disaster. The grist had to be gotten upon a stump and the unwilling horse led between the stump and a near by tree which kept him from stepping to one side before the status of affairs had been restored, but success only awaited perseverance. The varied business ventures of the later life of that boy, with their adverse turns, bear no comparison to these weeping struggles with the grist in the wilderness.

TRANSPORTATION.

In the early days of our country hereabouts, the team work was mostly done with oxen, now almost a thing of the past.

Ox teams were used on the farm, for social visits, and for going to church. Your essayist well remembers of many occasions when the whole family went to meeting behind this kind of a team, upon a sled or in an old, squeaky wagon. Indeed, this was the rule among the pioneers sixty years ago, and caused no comment.

Before roads for wagons were made, horseback riding for both sexes was most common, and the horse-block before every door afforded the aid for mounting. The animal was often taxed to carry double, and this was the favorite mode with beaux and belles among the pioneers.

A farm wagon behind a span of plow horses showed the wealth and luxury of the owner, while the buggy and surrey, now so common, were unknown.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

The boy well remembers when Clarksfield's mail came but once a week, and then was brought by a post-boy on horseback with a leathern pair of saddle-

bags as the mail car. When he arrived upon the east hill at the village, to warn Esquire Starr, the postmaster, of his coming, he most vigorously sounded his tin horn, which he carried fastened to his saddle. Mail day, though it brought little of interest to the people, was the day of the week after Sunday. Few newspapers were taken, and letters at eighteen and three-fourths cents or twenty-five cents each, were too costly a luxury to be often indulged in by such a people. The mail carrier often brought news from the outside world of the elections, of wars or rumors of wars, which was passed from mouth to mouth.

Now the mail is brought to Clarksfield's dwellers daily from the east to the west and from the west to the east, upon the fast mail trains of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad; and instead of the horn of the mail-boy, is heard the scream of the locomotive engine and the thunderous rumbling of heavy trains of cars, bearing the commerce of the continent. Smith Starr, the first and long time postmaster of the town, who handed out to the boy in question, sixty-five years ago, the Western Christian Advocate, the family paper, sleeps with the neighbors whom he served upon the hill, while the mail is distributed and served to patrons by a woman postmistress, a descendant of Aaron Rowland, another of the pioneers of the town.

DEATH AMONG THE PIONEERS.

In those pioneer days people died as they do now only oftener and earlier in life; for the hard life of privation most of them lived reduced the average term of life, and the pioneer fell an early victim to the ague or to the fever which followed in its train.

As people wore home-made clothing in life, so their dead were encoffined in a home-made, walnut coffin, made to order from an actual measure taken, by the local cabinet maker or by a carpenter, the funeral always awaiting the convenience of the mechanic. The account books of Capt. Samuel Husted, pioneer merchant and first manufacturer of Clarksfield, still preserved, furnish the only vital statistics of the town in the charges made therein for coffins, furnished for the dead among the pioneers.

Funerals among the pioneers were always formal affairs. The newest and best farm wagon of the settlement served as the hearse, and not until in the forties did our town furnish a pall for such occasions. A minister, if one could be had, must come, say a prayer and deliver a sermon. If no minister could be had, then some devout layman solemnized the occasion by a prayer. The old hymn begining, "Hark from the tombs a doleful sound," sung to the tune of China, by uncultured voices, made the solemnity of the occasion almost gloomy, and always awakened doubts of the reality of the resurrection.

The neighbors for miles around turned out and the funeral rites were decorously and solemnly performed.

The writer has a vivid recollection of his attendance upon a funeral in Clarksfield, the first that fell under his observation. It was that of a young mother who had yielded up her life in a forest home. The bereaved home was reached from our home by a tramp with mother and a neighbor, through a mile of dense forest. After the ceremony the burial took place upon a knoll in the deep woods

near by. The sight of the dead mother and of the bereaved little ones made an impression upon the mind of the five-year-old boy which was deep and lasting. The little procession bore the body from the lonely cabin home to the grave where the neighbors filled in the earth and departed. For some years the mound reminded the observer of the departed, but finally all traces of the entombment were eradicated and the affair was forgotten. The place of interment has long since been passed over by the stranger occupant of the farm with no knowledge of the burial.

Early burials were in most cases made upon the home farm, for cemeteries were not then established. In a few years, as in the instance above given, these places of burial were forgotten, so that now the plow and the reaper, unknown to the farmer in charge, desecrate the places once sacred to the pioneer.

CONCLUSION.

The story you have listened to contains nothing startling, and has, I fear, hardly been interesting. It is but a recitation of commonplace affairs, with an antique odor, of which every pioneer boy knows, and perhaps, yes surely, this is all it has to commend it. Be this as it may, the story has its counterpart in the history of every section of our country, which has, with such marvelous celerity, emerged from a wilderness, the dwelling place of the savage, to a densely populated empire of civilization, within the lifetime and recollections of many here. The story begins contemporaneously with the first term of President Jackson, the seventh president, and runs to that of the twenty-fifth, counted consecutively, and covers one-half of the lifetime of our republic. It has seen the republic doubled and more than doubled in the extent of its territory, and more than quadrupled in its population; while in material resources and national virility the infant has become the giant of this globe.

During this period the last of the men who at the beginning of the story grappled with the wilderness here, has passed to the beyond. The children of the pioneer have in many cases, as in the case of the families most conspicuous in the story, gone to aid in developing other states, so that the only memory of their names is to be gathered from the tombstones in your cemeteries. But such is the glory of American life everywhere.

JOHNNY APPLESEED.

ADDRESS OF A. J. BAUGHMAN AT THE UNVEILING OF THE JOHNNY APPLESEED MONUMENT AT MANSFIELD, OHIO.

John Chapman was born at Springfield, Mass., in the year 1775. Of his early life but little is known, as he was reticent about himself, but his half-sister who came west at a later period, stated that Johnny had, when a boy, shown a fondness for natural scenery and often wandered from home in quest of plants and flowers and that he liked to listen to the birds singing and to gaze at the stars. Chapman's penchant for planting apple seeds and cultivating nurseries caused him to be called "Appleseed John," which was finally changed to "Johnny Appleseed," and by that name he was called and known everywhere.

The year Chapman came to Ohio has been variously stated, but to say it was one hundred years ago would not be far from the mark. An uncle of the late Roscella Rice lived in Jefferson county when Chapman made his first advent in Ohio, and one day saw a queer-looking craft coming down the Ohio river above Steubenville. It consisted of two canoes lashed together, and its crew was one man—an angular, oddly-dressed person—and when he landed he said his name was Chapman, and that his cargo consisted of sacks of apple seeds and that he intended to plant nurseries.

Chapman's first nursery was planted nine miles below Steubenville, up a narrow valley, from the Ohio river, at Brilliant, formerly called Lagrange, opposite Wellsburg, W. Va. After planting a number of nurseries along the river front, he extended his work into the interior of the state—into Richland county—where he made his home for many years.

Chapman was enterprising in his way and planted nurseries in a number of counties, which required him to travel hundreds of miles to visit and cultivate them yearly, as was his custom. His usual price for a tree was "a fip penny-bit," but if the settler hadn't money, Johnny would either give him credit or take old clothes for pay. He generally located his nurseries along streams, planted his seeds, surrounded the patch with a brush fence, and when the pioneers came, Johnny had young fruit trees ready for them. He extended his operations to the Maumee country and finally into Indiana, where the last years of his life were spent. He revisited Richland county the last time in 1843, and called at my father's, but as I was only five years old at the time I do not remember him.

My parents (in about 1827-35) planted two orchards with trees they bought of Johnny, and he often called at their house, as he was a frequent caller at the homes of the settlers. My grandfather, Capt. James Cunningham, settled in Richland county in 1808, and was acquainted with Johnny for many years, and I often heard him tell, in his Irish-witty way, many amusing anecdotes and incidents of Johnny's life and of his peculiar and eccentric ways.

Johnny was fairly educated, well read and was polite and attentive in manner and was chaste in conversation. His face was pleasant in expression, and he was kind and generous in disposition. His nature was a deeply religious one, and his life was blameless among his fellow men. He regarded comfort more than style and thought it wrong to spend money for clothing to make a fine appearance. He usually wore a broad-brimmed hat. He went barefooted not only in the summer, but often in cold weather, and a coffee sack, with neck and armholes cut in it, was worn as a coat. He was about five feet, nine inches in height, rather spare in build was large boned and sinewy. His eyes were blue, but darkened with animation.

For a number of years Johnny lived in a little cabin near Perrysville (then in Richland county), but later he made his home in Mansfield with his half-sister, a Mrs. Groome.

When upon his journeys "Johnny" usually camped out. He never killed anything, not even for the purpose of obtaining food. He carried a kit of cooking utensils with him, among which was a mush-pan, which he sometimes wore as a hat. When he called at a house, his custom was to lie upon the floor with his kit for a pillow and after conversing with the family a short time, would then read from a



GENERAL READING ROOM, PUBLIC LIBRARY, NORWALK

Swedenborgian book or tract, and proceed to explain and extol the religious views he so zealously believed, and whose teachings he so faithfully carried out in his every day life and conversation. His mission was one of peace and good will and he never carried a weapon, not even for self-defense. The Indians regarded him as a great "Medicine Man," and his life seemed to be a charmed one, as neither savage men nor wild beast would harm him.

Chapman was not a mendicant. He was never in indigent circumstances, for he sold thousands of nursery trees every year. Had he been avaricious, his estate instead of being worth a few thousand might have been tens of thousands at his death.

"Johnny Appleseed's" name was John Chapman—not Jonathan—and this is attested by the muniments of his estate, and also from the fact that he had a half-brother (a deaf mute) whose Christian name was Jonathan.

Chapman never married and rumor said that a love affair in the old Bay State was the cause of his living the life of a celibate and recluse. Johnny himself never explained why he led such a singular life except to remark that he had a mission—which was understood to be to plant nurseries and to make converts to the doctrines taught by Emanuel Swedenborg. He died at the home of William Worth in St. Joseph township, Allen county, Indiana, March 11, 1847, and was buried in David Archer's graveyard, a few miles north of Fort Wayne, near the foot of a natural mound. His name is engraved as a cenotaph upon one of the monuments erected in Mifflin township, Ashland county, this state, to the memory of the pioneers. Those monuments were unveiled with imposing ceremony in the presence of over six thousand people September 15, 1882, the seventieth anniversary of the Copus tragedy.

During the war of 1812 Chapman often warned the settlers of approaching danger. The following incident is given: When the news spread that Levi Jones had been killed by the Indians and that Wallace Reed and others had probably met the same fate, excitement ran high and the few families which comprised the population of Mansfield sought the protection of the blockhouse, situated on the public square, as it was supposed the savages were coming in force from the north to overrun the country and to murder the settlers.

There were no troops at the blockhouse at the time and as an attack was considered imminent, a consultation was held and it was decided to send a messenger to Captain Douglas, at Mt. Vernon, for assistance. But who would undertake the hazardous journey? It was evening, and the rays of the sunset had faded away and the stars were beginning to shine in the darkening sky, and the trip of thirty miles must be made in the night over a new cut road through a wilderness—through a forest infested with wild beasts and hostile Indians.

A volunteer was asked for and a tall, lank man said demurely: "I'll go." He was bareheaded, barefooted and was unarmed. His manner was meek and you had to look the second time into his clear, blue eyes to fully fathom the courage and determination shown in their depths. There was an expression in his countenance such as limners try to portray in their pictures of saints. It is scarcely necessary to state that the volunteer was "Johnny Appleseed" for many of you have heard your fathers tell how unostentatiously "Johnny" stood as "a

watchman on the walls of Jezreel," to guard and protect the settlers from their savage foes.

The journey to Mt. Vernon was a sort of a Paul Revere mission. Unlike Paul's, "Johnny's" was made on foot—barefooted—over a rough road, but one that in time led to fame.

"Johnny" would rap on the doors of the few cabins along the route, warn the settlers of the impending danger and advise them to flee to the blockhouse.

"Johnny" arrived safely at Mt. Vernon, aroused the garrison and informed the commandant of his mission. Surely, figuratively speaking,

"The dun-deer's hide
On fleeter feet was never tied,"

for so expeditiously was the trip made that at sunrise the next morning troops from Mt. Vernon arrived at the Mansfield blockhouse, accompanied by "Johnny," who had made the round trip of sixty miles between sunset and sunrise.

About a week before Chapman's death, while at Fort Wayne, he heard that cattle had broken into his nursery in St. Joseph township and were destroying his trees, and he started on foot to look after his property. The distance was about twenty miles and the fatigue and exposure of the journey were too much for "Johnny's" physical condition, then enfeebled by age; and at the even-tide he applied at the home of a Mr. Worth for lodging for the night. Mr. Worth was a native Buckeye and had lived in Richland county when a boy and when he learned that his oddly dressed caller was "Johnny Appleseed" gave him a cordial welcome. "Johnny" declined going to the supper table but partook of a bowl of bread and milk.

The day had been cold and raw with occasional flurries of snow, but in the evening the clouds cleared away and the sun shone warm and bright as it sank in the western sky. "Johnny" noticed this beautiful sunset, an augury of the Spring and flowers so soon to come and sat on the doorstep and gazed with wistful eyes toward the west. Perhaps this herald of the Springtime, the season in which nature is resurrected from the death of Winter, caused him to look with prophetic eyes to the future and contemplate that glorious event of which Christ is the resurrection and the life. Upon re-entering the house, "Johnny" declined the bed offered him for the night, preferring a quilt and pillow on the floor, but asked permission to hold family worship and read "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven," "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God," etc.

After he had finished reading the lesson, he said prayers—prayers long remembered by that family. He prayed for all sorts and conditions of men; that the way of righteousness might be made clear unto them and that saving grace might be freely given to all nations. He asked that the Holy Spirit might guide and govern all who profess and call themselves Christians and that all those who were afflicted in mind, body or estate, might be comforted and relieved, and that all might at last come to the knowledge of the truth and in the world to come have happiness and everlasting life. Not only the words of the prayer, but the pathos of his voice made a deep impression upon those present.

In the morning "Johnny" was found in a high state of fever, pneumonia having developed during the night, and the physician called said he was beyond medical aid, but inquired particularly about his religious belief, and remarked that he had never seen a dying man so perfectly calm, for upon his wan face there was an expression of happiness and upon his pale lips there was a smile of joy, as though he was communing with loved ones who had come to meet him and to soothe his weary spirit in his dying moments. And as his eyes shone with the beautiful light supernal, God touched him with his finger and beckoned him home.

Thus ended the life of the man who was not only a hero, but a benefactor as well; and his spirit is now at rest in the Paradise of the Redeemed, and in the fullness of time, clothed again in the old body made anew, will enter into the Father's house in which there are many mansions. In the words of his own faith, his bruised feet will be healed, and he shall walk on the gold-paved streets of the New Jerusalem of which he so eloquently preached. It has been very appropriately said that although years have come and gone since his death, the memory of his good deeds live anew every Springtime in the beauty and fragrance of the blossoms of the apple trees he loved so well.

"Johnny Appleseed's" death was in harmony with his unostentatious, blameless life. It is often remarked, "How beautiful is the Christian's life;" yea, but far more beautiful is the Christian's death, when "the fashion of his countenance is altered," as he passes from the life here to the life beyond.

What changes have taken place in the years that have intervened between the "Johnny Appleseed" period and today! It has been said that the lamp of civilization far surpasses that of Aladdin's. Westward the star of empire took its way and changed the forests into fields of grain and the waste places into gardens of flowers, and towns and cities have been built with marvelous handiwork. But in this march of progress, the struggles and hardships of the early settlers must not be forgotten. Let us not only record the history, but the legends of the pioneer period; garner its facts and its fictions; its tales and traditions and collect even the crumbs that fall from the table of the feast.

Today, the events which stirred the souls and tried the courage of the pioneers seem to come out of the dim past and glide as panoramic views before me. A number of the actors in those scenes were of my "kith and kin" who have long since crossed over the river in their journey to the land where Enoch and Elijah are pioneers, while I am left to exclaim:

"Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still."

HOW JAY COOKE FINANCED THE CIVIL WAR.

PAPER READ BY JAY COOKE, OF PHILADELPHIA, BEFORE THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AT ITS MEETING IN SANDUSKY, OCTOBER 3, 1900.

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Mr. President, and Members of the Firelands Historical Society:

You must not expect from me on this occasion anything more than a truthful talk upon some subjects your President tells me you will be pleased to listen to

as coming from one who, although not a member of your society yet, has for long years kept himself informed as to your aims and purposes and who has taken much interest in all you have done. I never delivered a speech in all my nearly eighty years of life. The largest body I have ever addressed was a male bible class of sometimes one hundred and fifty members which I have conducted each Sabbath for nearly fifty years and yet when I recalled the fact that my dear father, the Hon. Eleutheros Cooke, so frequently in the long ago met with you and addressed you and that your society has numbered and now numbers many old friends, I could not refuse the invitation to appear before you.

My preference would have been, however, to have met and talked with you at the fireside of my own home. Oh, what hours we could have spent together, chatting about the good old times, the old friends, the thousand and one incidents, old customs and experiences and again of the wondrous changes that have taken place, the rapid progress in arts and sciences and inventions in steamships and railroads, and telegraph and telephones. Why a whole year of such talks would hardly suffice to exhaust the infinite sum of the items we would recall from memory's storehouse, even a memory reaching no further backwards than three score years and ten.

My friends, I consider myself as one of you. I was born near the spot where we are now assembled. I have a perfect recollection of Sandusky when it was but just changing from an Indian village. Old Ogontz many a time has carried me on his shoulders. I named my beautiful home near Philadelphia after this old chief and now the whole country around me for miles has appropriated for their postoffice, railroad station and village the name of Ogontz.

My father, I think, built the first stone house down on Columbus avenue. The town was then called Portland, and afterwards Sandusky City and now Sandusky. My first recollection of any public worship was of a Methodist meeting held in a cooper shop on Market street, our seats rough boards placed on kegs. Shortly after this a small frame church was erected by the Methodists near where the courthouse stands. After this a stone church built by the Congregationalists, also a stone church by the Episcopalians and many other societies followed until in time this fair city has become noted as a city of churches.

The bay was at certain times covered with ducks and wild geese and swan and the water populous with all kinds of fish. I remember a joke which our rival neighbors used to perpetrate, *i. e.*, that before the Sandusky people could dine or sup they would have to send us boys down to the docks to catch enough fish for a meal. But in fact this whole country was full of game and fish of all kinds, a perfect paradise for hunters and fishermen. Deer and squirrels and prairie chickens and wild turkey, etc., abounded.

My father never was a hunter but on one occasion he beat us all in prowess by capturing a couple of dozen of fat wild turkeys without firing a gun. He had a hundred-acre field of corn out on the prairie and had built a spacious corn house in the center. One day, riding over this field after harvest, he noticed a window was open and approaching and looking in discovered a large flock of wild turkeys within and feasting on his corn. He promptly closed the window and captured the whole flock, thus providing a feast for the good old Thanksgiving day then near at hand.

On this same prairie between Bloomingville and Strong's Ridge I have hunted with Judge Caldwell. It was a rare spot for deer and prairie chickens.

And now before closing these personal reminiscences I wish to refer to an incident which some of you will no doubt recall. It is this, at one of your meetings in Norwalk long ago my father, who was the orator on that occasion, took from his pocket the very first telegram that had been sent from Philadelphia to Sandusky. He reminded you of past difficulties, particularly in the earlier periods, in the matter of mails and messages from the East and how that frequently letters were days and weeks before reaching their destination and how he held in his hand a message that he had received from his son Jay from Philadelphia in just five minutes from the time his son had written it that very morning.

To realize the wondrous change that you and I have witnessed we can recall the time when postage on a letter from Sandusky to Norwalk was twelve and one-half cents and from Boston to Sandusky was twenty-five cents and if the envelope contained an enclosure beside the one sheet the postage was doubled. Why, my dear friends, I myself have paid seventy-five cents on a letter to my sweetheart in Kentucky just because there was so much news in Philadelphia that it required three sheets to tell it all. You and I remember when tomatoes were called "Love Apples" and were not eaten, considered poisonous. We remember the first soda water fountains, the first daguerreotype, the first steamship that crossed the ocean, the first railroad charter obtained in the world and that by my own father in 1826. We all remember the beginning of the road, at first between Sandusky and Bellevue, with a thin English strap rail and cars drawn by a horse.

I was present when, about 1835, ground was broken near Foreman's rope walk and a grand celebration held. All the great men of the state were invited. "Old Tippecanoe," the first President Harrison, was there. My father delivered the oration. We had music and a cannon and we boys all marched in the procession.

At this time a few other railroad projects had been launched, a few miles of the Baltimore & Ohio, some three miles of the Germantown road, also a piece of the Albany & Schenectady road and a mile in the Quincy granite quarries. But to my father and to the Western Reserve belongs the honor of being the pioneer in railroad matters. From this small beginning hundreds of thousands of miles of railroad have been constructed, why, my friends, there are today enough finished railroads in the United States alone to reach around the world fully ten times.

I have since 1838, when I took up my residence in Philadelphia, almost continually been financiering for railroads. As a member of the great firm of E. W. Clark & Co., and afterwards of the firm of Jay Cooke & Co., I have until recent years been instrumental in the building of nearly all the older railroads of the country. The last of these, the great Northern Pacific railroad, now a triumphant success and which has developed one of the finest portions of this country, where, in 1870, a vast territory was filled with buffalo and Indians, can now be found over six millions of intelligent and energetic farmers and miners and merchants and ranchmen, etc., and many large cities and thriving towns, hundreds of churches, schools and colleges and branch railroads innumerable.

In fact whether I journey east or west, north or south, I can recall the fact that at some early date our firms financiered the bonds issued by these roads many of which were entirely in our hands at some period of their history. I have always had faith in well managed railroad property. About the only time I ever met Jay Gould was when I asked him to assist in extending the Union Pacific one hundred and seventy-five miles into southern Utah. This he agreed to do. The purpose was to reach the great Horn silver mine at Frisco and it took us just twenty minutes to close the bargain, although the railroad alone cost over two millions of which the Union Pacific subscribed for one-half. This road was completed in five months. I had, I remember, one other transaction with Mr. Gould, and I found him in each case entirely trustworthy and reliable, and my confidence in his word was so great that we did not even draw up or sign any papers. He simply said: "I will do it, go ahead, and I will do my part."

I suppose it was this association from early youth with large financial and commercial transactions that gave me a vast experience and opened my mind and widened my views as to the future of this glorious nation so that at the period of the Mexican war from 1846 to 1849, as a member of the firm of E. W. Clark & Co., I assisted in the negotiation of the government loans required from time to time to carry on that war. Corcoran & Riggs, of Washington, and E. W. Clark & Co., of Philadelphia, took all of those loans. The amount altogether did not exceed sixty or seventy millions. Robert J. Walker was secretary of the treasury at that time and author of the sub-treasury system. I was quite intimate with him, not then, but during the war of the rebellion.

I could tell you of some amusing details as to the manipulation of the Mexican war loans. Why our firm made more profit out of each of their shares of the ten million awards than I made during the whole period of the war of the rebellion, a period of between four and five years during which, as selling agent of this government, I negotiated all the great loans issued amounting to over two thousand millions of dollars, this sum includes the early issue of temporary loan certificates, loan of 1881, 5-20 bonds, 10-40 bonds, 7-30 notes, etc., etc. This last loan was for eight hundred and thirty millions and I sold it all within five months, the sales occasionally reaching ten to fifteen millions a day and one day forty-two millions. It was the closing war loan and before its marvellous sale was concluded the war had ended. I could tell you, if I had time, of how I saved the treasury one hundred millions of dollars and how the success of this loan elevated the credit of this nation to a pinnacle far above that of any nation on earth and gave the final blow to the great rebellion.

This saving of one hundred millions was acknowledged by all acquainted with the facts and was originated and carried out successfully solely by myself, the treasury department simply agreeing to my wishes and plans. It was in connection with the vast issue of quartermaster certificates and the unwise provision made for their redemption which, instead of distributing the money, I poured into the treasury *pro rata* upon each outstanding group of certificates, paid out the bulk of it in Philadelphia, New York and Boston, leaving the hundreds of other quartermaster departments frequently for months without funds.

The consequence was that whilst quartermaster certificates in Philadelphia and the East could be sold when first issued at ten to twelve per cent. discount, the discount in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, etc., was twenty-two to twenty-five per cent, other points thirty to thirty-five per cent, and at Nashville I heard of a sale at fifty per cent discount. Now all this discount together with the doubts and fears created by the want of prompt payment which greatly checked competition added at least one million per day to the cost of the war and discredited our bonds and gave hopes to the rebels and their sympathizers at the north and in Europe that we would break down financially. I pondered over this fearful situation and devised and executed at once a scheme which within thirty days gave promise of the speedy ending of the war and reduced the discount on all vouchers issued by quartermasters in all parts of the country to not over two to three per cent and in fact the money flowed so rapidly into the treasury that ere long the vouchers were cashed as soon as issued. This, my friends, is the first time I have made any public mention of my services in connection with this marvellous matter. You will wonder how it was accomplished.

It was in this way. I called to my office in Philadelphia to confer with me all the large holders of vouchers residing in the eastern cities. These men agreed unanimously and privately to accept my proposition and to keep the plan from publicity in order that the greatest good could be accomplished by its success. These men held about eighty millions of vouchers, all of which were within a few days deposited with me and for which I gave them the current issue of 7-30 notes at par; they agreeing to use them as a basis of bank loans until I had closed out the sale of 7-30's for cash. They could borrow twenty-five per cent more on the 7-30's than on the vouchers, and as the 7-30's carried interest they got their loans practically without cost. As these treasury notes were day by day issued in exchange for the quartermaster's certificates, I was thereby able to add from three to ten millions a day to the sum of the public subscriptions. which, as I knew it would, created such an increased demand for the notes by the public and even foreign purchasers that the whole eight hundred and thirty millions of this issue were all sold within five short months. All the loans I negotiated went to a large premium. The 7-30 treasury notes after a short period were all funded into long bonds or paid off. I will say here that all the bonds I negotiated for the United States were paid off in gold as advertised and many of them long before they were due and being purchased at a premium by the treasury.

I am afraid I am already trespassing upon your time with these details, but you asked me to tell you some of the plans I adopted to win so great a success. I will but hint at a few of them and simply remark that these plans, originating as they did from practical business experience and entire independence of action and freedom from red tape, were such as no official or the government itself could have planned or executed. Take for instance the following:

Newspapers and individuals got into the habit of deploring the war and its vicious expenditures. I offset this by quoting the fact that every dollar raised by the loans went right back into the hands of the people and was new and vigorous blood permeating all through the body of the nation and at that time the expense of the war had reached the vast sum of six hundred millions per

annum. I simply, in addition to the fact as stated above, published statistics showing the importation annually for years past of the best kind of immigrants, mostly from the British Isles and the north of Europe. Such importation averaged over six hundred thousand per annum. The cost of rearing to the average age of those coming here was at least one thousand dollars each. This in addition to the money and goods which each immigrant brought in. These foreign countries were contributing to the United States without cost to us more than we were expending upon our war besides furnishing us many times the number of those who were killed and wounded and who were ready and glad to take their places in the ranks. Thus by using the newspapers and pamphlets and circulars to disseminate these facts thoroughly and constantly all over the land I soon dispelled all gloom and brought about a more cheerful condition of public opinion. Another incident. The Quakers, so numerous in Pennsylvania and in many other states, so rich and patriotic, were, as I knew, only held back from investing millions in the United States bonds by the thought that the money was for war purposes. Their consciences could not be reconciled to helping pay for war and bloodshed. How did I manage them? In this way. I sent for a number of them whom I knew personally and held conferences with them, the result of which was that I told them that I was in full sympathy with their scruples and had taken measures at Washington to make it possible for them also to subscribe for bonds. I told them that millions of money was required for hospitals and sanitary purposes, the sick and wounded must be cared for, etc., and that if they subscribed, their money would by especial agreement be applied by the treasury department to thus doing good to the suffering soldiers.

My proposition was cordially accepted and was widely made known through circulars and the newspapers, telegraph, etc., and soon my Quaker friends began to pour in millions from all parts of the country. Another incident. I had to labor with a class of men who invested only in first mortgages on real estate and would not invest in bonds of the United States. I got some of these men to a conference and told them that my government bonds were far ahead of their first mortgages; that in fact, their first mortgages were only second or third mortgages after all. In the first place the tax gatherers of the city and state both have a prior lien. If the owner of the mortgaged property is unable to pay his taxes the holder of the mortgage must do so or see his security glide from him. But above all I made clear to them the fact of the supreme position of the national government not only in the matter of imposition of any amount of taxation but even to the practical possession of every property in the land if its possession should be required to maintain the life of the nation. The nation's claim was first of all and universal confiscation of all property would be resorted to if needed to sustain the nation's life.

This is a solemn fact and these men understood it at once, being practical business men, and at once began to put their money into the best of all, the first lien upon all, the glorious 5-20's and other United States bonds. These true views were disseminated everywhere and greatly increased the volume of subscriptions.

I would not for a moment claim all the credit for the wondrous success that attended these vast negotiations which supplied almost wholly from the begin-



CITY HALL, MONROEVILLE

ning to the end the money, the sinews of war during the great rebellion, the most gigantic contest this world has ever seen, but would share it with the host of faithful partners, clerks and assistants we employed and with our own numerous editorial staff and with the whole body of the press and newspapers throughout the land. The latter without exception or any discrimination whether they were north or south, east or west, republican or democratic, or "copperhead," or Protestant or Catholic, with the single exception of the Sunday newspapers, I never paid a dollar to these breakers of the Sabbath, all alike published my advertisements and my special editorial articles. All were fully paid in cash, no discount asked and no commissions deducted by agents. It was a grand feast for the newspapers and the amount I expended during those four or five years reached probably two millions of dollars. Then too the country all the time was flooded with circulars and pamphlets and every possible means vigorously adopted to expand patriotism, to encourage the down-hearted, and to exalt the duty of every one subscribing to the current loans.

The officers and soldiers in the camps were fully instructed, and in addition to appeals to them for faithful service they were asked to subscribe and they did subscribe many millions of dollars. It is not too much to say that my efforts to popularize these various loans reached a grandeur of success that the world had never witnessed before; and that whilst our brave officers and soldiers and seamen were fighting great battles. I was confronted all the time with enemies less brave but equally active and strategic and determined, whom with the help of God and of splendid partners and assistants were finally overcome. I was asked during the great war when it seemed that a large portion of our prominent men in the army and navy and in public offices from the president and secretaries down were western men and particularly Ohio men, to explain how this could be. My answer was, so far as Ohio was concerned, that the men now of an age and experience to occupy these positions were the children of those energetic men and women pioneers who settled the Western Reserve and other parts of the noble state. They came from New York, Pennsylvania and New England states mostly, and some Virginians and Marylanders, but the mere fact of coming here and of battling as pioneers had given their offspring sturdy and prominent characters, such as Chase, and the Shermans and Stantons.

While I was, of course, more or less intimate with all the public men at Washington during the war yet I found my time so fully engaged that I spent but little of it in their company and, unless for some especial work or consultation connected with the creating and issue of some new loan, I seldom visited Washington. My representatives there were my brother, Governor Henry D. Cooke, and Mr. H. C. Fahnestock, two noble and able men and partners in our house there.

I have gone to Washington and conferred with Mr. Chase, Mr. Lincoln, Gen. Grant and Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Fessenden, John Sherman and many others, and all these gentlemen have from time to time visited me at Ogontz, my home near Philadelphia, and Gibraltar, my Western Reserve island home, and I have enjoyed unusual opportunities in conversing with them during and since the war, but will have to reserve these anecdotes and details for some other occasion. They were all noble men; our nation owes them a debt of gratitude that monu-

ments and honors cannot repay. I have always felt that in this matter of men fitted and born for the occasion none but our nation's God could have chosen and sustained these glorious characters who were prominent in those dark days of strife and bloodshed.

I will state that this nation stands today just where I prognosticated she would in due time stand, the most powerful, the richest, the most enlightened, and the freest and happiest nation on this earth.

We have kept all our promises financially, have seen our whole land again reunited so that we have no north and no south, and our financial and commercial credit is greater even than Great Britain. We have been able to borrow money at two per cent, in fact have lately paid off a debt bearing only that interest and have lately taken a British loan of twenty-five millions and sent them the gold out of our superabundance to pay for it and I presume from signs I see that we shall loan large sums to Russia before long and perhaps to other powers of Europe. We are kings in the iron, coal, cotton and grain trade.

It would require hundreds of pages to record the incidents and efforts accompanying the plans adopted for raising the millions of dollars required each month during the war. In fact the experience of past negotiations was no guide to present ones, and not only in the form and terms of the different loans was there a constant variance, but instead of being sold by the treasury department the most of these gigantic loans were sold to the public through myself as general subscription agent. I thus employing all banks, bankers and other agents who were accountable to me direct daily, and by me settlement was made with the treasury department. I paid all advertising and appointed all my own agents. The treasury department had practically but little to do in the matter beyond printing the bonds and receiving and disbursing their proceeds. The wisdom of Mr. Chase, of Mr. Fessenden and Mr. McCulloch as secretaries of the treasury was shown by a non-interference with my plans and the giving me perfect liberty to manage the loans in my own way. I was aided by some of the best writers in our land and thus was enabled to introduce and popularize many ideas that were adopted and universally believed in. Such for instance as that expenses of war if disbursed in our own borders tends rather to add to the nation's vigor and wealth, also that the population was rapidly increasing through immigration, increasing far beyond the loss by war, also that a government bond was first lien upon all else and the best security in the world. Remember, my dear friends, that from 1861 to 1865 practically the bulk of the funds raised was through my efforts and the efforts of my firm. We were God chosen. I have always thought we were helped and sustained by His Gracious power.

When in Washington I met, of course, most of our public men. How famous their names are now, such men as Chase, Lincoln, Sherman, Fessenden, McCulloch and Seward.

They were all great men and worthy of our remembrances. I have not time to tell you of incidents of deep interest taking place continually in connection with these men. Suffice to say such incidents were exciting and worthy of the men and the times.

During the battle of Gettysburg my office in Philadelphia was crowded with subscribers to the loans, and after the battle many citizens whose sons were in

that battle and had been wounded and who had failed to get passes to visit them came to me and said, "Surely we are subscribers to the loans, can't you give us a pass?" I told them I would try, and sat down and wrote a short note to the commander at Gettysburg, which was accepted in every instance, allowing the Philadelphia father to pass to his wounded son. I have always regarded advertising as the great power to be availed of. I disbursed during the five years of war over two millions of dollars in advertising the loans.

Now a word in conclusion. The cost in commissions and printing and advertising, for instance in Europe and perhaps at times in England reaches two or two and a half per cent. For this guarantee some great banking house like Rothschild's places the loan. I understand that they simply financier it and do not take the risk of a dollar.

How different this is from the terms under which Jay Cooke undertook to financier for our treasury. He got but a paltry three-eighths per cent to cover all his advertising and agents of all kinds, and out of this scarcely saved a penny.

The whole amount of the outlay by the government during the war for materials, engraving and printing bonds and commissions allowed did not exceed seven and a half millions of dollars. So far as Jay Cooke & Co. were concerned they were left to enjoy the honors of such heroic deeds for they certainly saved nothing else.

Since writing the above I have seen an article in the September McClure's magazine written by the Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, ex-secretary of the treasury, who says, in part: "It is not easy, in this age of comparative freedom and power in financial affairs, to comprehend that in the year 1871 the long established bankers of New York, Amsterdam and London, either declined or neglected the opportunity to negotiate the five per cent coin bonds of the United States upon the basis of their par value.

It was in this situation of affairs that Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co. proposed to undertake the sale in London, by subscription, of one hundred and thirty-four million five per cent bonds then unsold. Authority was given to Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co. to proceed with the undertaking, and when the books were closed, September 1st, I was informed that the loan had been taken in full."

I may mention in passing that Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co. paid for the bonds as they were delivered, either in coin or in five-twenty bonds.

Thus the services of Jay Cooke & Co. were called for long after the close of the war.

In conclusion, my dear friends, after thanking you for your patience in listening to so long a story, I would refer to the history of this favored portion of our country and the circumstances which led you to adopt it as your home. This belt of land on the south bank of Lake Erie, including many islands, is called the Firelands of the Western Reserve, granted long ago as compensation for losses and trials and sufferings endured by your fathers and mothers many years ago in Connecticut in the Revolutionary War. A glorious and goodly land was then provided for you by a kindly and beneficent government, but, oh, I would remind you that there is a better land, a land of pure delight which our loved and powerful Saviour has gone to prepare for you, "Sweet fields arrayed in living green and rivers of delight." This coming inheritance is a new

and Heavenly reserve made ready for all who now hear my voice. The journey thither will not be through dangerous forests and Indian foes or wearisome marches and toilful struggles, but will be to those of you who are looking forward to a future home in that Heavenly reserve, but an instant of transition. You will find there no early or later toil and struggles such as you met within this earthly reserve, but will realize in that Heavenly reserve such peace and rest and joy as we pilgrims of earth cannot conceive of.

May we all meet again in that Heavenly Reserve.—From the "Firelands Pioneer."

THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Firelands Historical Society was organized in the court house at Norwalk in June, 1857. It has held annual meetings in Norwalk and numerous quarterly meetings in various portions of Huron and Erie counties since its organization fifty-two years ago.

The following is from an address of the Hon. Rush R. Sloane, at the annual meeting of the Firelands Historical Society in 1906:

"Nearly half a century has elapsed since the organization of the Firelands Historical Society, which took place in this town of Norwalk, when many of the first settlers of the Firelands were present and participated in that memorable event. In the years that have since passed, nearly all of those pioneers have crossed the great divide.

"It is our proud privilege and pleasure to claim the possession and ownership of the only building solely used for historical and archaeological purposes by any organized county society in Ohio. Even the 'Historical and Archaeological Society' of our state has as yet no home for its library and valuable archæological deposits. While Huron and Erie counties through the agency of this society and many years of zealous work has now such a home, wherein we can safely deposit in a fireproof museum the authentic records which commemorate the labors and achievements of our ancestors. For all time these collections and such other of like contributions as may come to our society, may be viewed and reviewed by the present and future generations with a gratified pride of worthy ancestry.

"In 1857 the pioneers of the two counties of Huron and Erie met at Norwalk and organized 'The Firelands Historical Society,' the chief purpose of which was to collect and preserve in proper form the facts constituting the full history of the 'Fire Lands,' and to secure an authentic statement of their resources and productions of all kinds. The society, which has a charter, was not organized for profit, and yet no corporation has ever declared richer or greater dividends. And what has this society done? Its meetings, quarterly and annual, have been quite regularly held. Its publications, forty-five numbers or volumes, are, in number of pages, exceeding those of any county historical society in Ohio or in the west. These publications devoted to the early history of the Firelands and of the state of Ohio include nearly seven thousand pages of valuable early history, most of which was never in print before and contain full and complete memoirs of thirty-two townships reported by original pioneers in these townships. It has collected valuable books, papers, pamphlets and writings along special lines which cannot now be

duplicated. It has also many bound volumes of newspapers, in which both the local, as well as the general history of the state and country is preserved for the use of investigators and historians. Its collection of maps, many made by the original surveyors, will be of great value in settling matters of facts and early land titles. It has a large collection of genealogy which is often consulted for early family history.

"The museum collection embraces a large number of Indian relics, nearly all found within the Firelands. The selection embraces rare fossils and petrifications which possess great interest to the geologist and student, and tend to confirm the theory that the shores of Lake Erie at some remote period extended farther south than they do now.

"There are original letters from our early statesmen and warriors, from Generals Washington, Greene and Harrison, from Cass and Chase, from Grant and Sherman, and from many of the present day.

"There are guns and pistols, cannon and rifle balls, musket ball and grape shot, powder flasks and pocket books picked up on the battlefields of all the wars in which our country has engaged, and also numerous mementoes of the battle on Lake Erie on September 10, 1813.

"During the existence of our society since May, 1857, it has exchanged its publications with a large number of state historical societies, thus spreading broadcast the early and important events of our section of Ohio, both in peace and war, which go far to make up and complete the grand and glorious history of the state of Ohio's century of growth, and which mark its transformation step by step from a wilderness into its present prosperous condition.

"In the society's publications are to be found the able, interesting and eloquent addresses of such pioneer citizens and distinguished men as Eleutheros Cooke, Elisha Whittlesey, E. Lane, Giddings, L. B. Gurley, President R. B. Hayes, General L. V. Bierce, P. N. Schuyler, Clark Waggoner, G. T. Stewart, and many others. These addresses being of great interest and value and never published elsewhere."

Every citizen in the Firelands should be interested in preserving a history of the events transpiring within our borders. The only way to do this successfully is to support the Firelands Historical Society in its laudable efforts to carefully preserve and frequently publish these volumes of history, biography and record of passing events.

Platt Benedict was the first president of the society, and continued its president until his death, 1866.

CONSTITUTION.

Art. 1. This society shall be called "The Firelands Historical Society."

Art. 2. Its objects are to collect and preserve in proper form, the facts constituting the full history of the "Fire Lands;" also to obtain and preserve an authentic and general statement of their resources and productions of all kinds.

Art. 3. The officers of the society shall consist of a president, five vice-presidents, a treasurer, one recording and two corresponding secretaries.

Art. 4. The officers hereof shall be elected annually at the annual meeting, and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices.

Art. 5. The annual meeting of the society shall be held in Norwalk, on the second Wednesday of June, at 10 o'clock A. M., of each year hereafter.

Art. 6. Any person a resident of the "Fire Lands" may become a member by signing this constitution, and paying into the treasury the sum of twenty-five cents.

Art. 7. This constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting hereafter, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

The secretary, on being called abroad, was excused by the house, and A. G. Stewart, Esq., was chosen to act in his absence.

An election of officers was then had, which resulted as follows:

President—Platt Benedict.

Vice-Presidents—William Parish, Eleutheros Cooke, Zalmuna Phillips, Seth C. Parker, and John H. Niles.

Treasurer—Charles A. Preston.

Recording Secretary—Philip N. Schuyler.

Corresponding Secretaries—F. D. Parish and G. T. Stewart.

The Firelands society has one of the largest and finest museum collections in the state. It is well cared for and is kept in fire-proof rooms of the Firelands memorial building.

PRESENT OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND TRUSTEES OF THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Hon. C. H. Gallup, president, Norwalk, Ohio; Hon. C. P. Wickham, first vice-president, Norwalk, Ohio; Hon. Thos. M. Sloane, second vice-president, Sandusky, Ohio; Hon. S. E. Crawford, treasurer, Norwalk, Ohio; Lucy Strutton, librarian, Norwalk, Ohio; George F. Titus, assistant librarian, Norwalk, Ohio; Dr. A. Sheldon, secretary, Norwalk, Ohio; Hon. C. H. Gallup, curator of museum..

Board of Directors and Trustees—The president and secretary ex-officio; W. W. Whiton, Wakeman, Ohio; Hon. J. F. Laning, Norwalk, Ohio; George F. Titus, Norwalk, Ohio; G. S. Mordoff, Norwalk, Ohio; A. S. Prentiss, Norwalk, Ohio.

Publishing Committee—Hon. C. H. Gallup, Norwalk, Ohio.

Biographer Huron County—Dr. F. E. Weeks, Clarksfield, Ohio.

Biographer Erie County—John McKlevy, Sandusky, Ohio.

REMEMBER THE PIONEERS.

(From a paper written by I. M. Gillett, of Norwalk, and read at a meeting of the Firelands Pioneer Society.)

In the presence of the old men and old ladies, of the Firelands, nearly a century looks down upon us today. And what a century! Never in history has there been such a century, so remarkable in great events as the past one. There has never been such men of brains; such men of science as have lived in the past one hundred years. These meetings of the pioneers bring up the thought that

all we enjoy are the work of our forefathers. It is difficult, at this late day to concede or believe all that we owe to them. It was the training that the boys of the Firelands received that made men of muscle and men of brains. The men who were chopping the trees, and clearing the forests made way for the railway, the telegraph, the telephone, and the electric car. I want you all to remember that the best servants make the best men. A pioneer is one that goes to prepare the way. I hardly know whether I am a pioneer or not. My father came here in 1839, with his family of six children, of which I am the only one that remains, that leaves me here fifty-nine years. Is that long enough to make me a pioneer?

We all know that the country lying between the foothills of the Alleghanies and where the prairies break was an interminable forest not many years ago.

The roads, the houses, the schoolhouses in the valley and the churches on the hilltops, tell the tale of the work of the pioneers, a brave set of men and women.

It required as much courage to face this forest as it did for the Puritans to face King Phillip, the patriots to fight on Bunker Hill, the soldiers to stand in the trench as before Vicksburg, and the veterans to hold the field at Gettysburg.

I will not describe those early days. You old ladies and gentlemen can tell about those times. You old pioneers can go back in memory, and you do not need to have your recollection revived by me. You remember the thatched log cabins, the yards full of weeds, and the woods in which the barefooted boy went for the cows before supper. Then you remember how hard it was to pull out the plow after it had sucked under a root. I think that was the hardest thing to do, excepting to pay taxes.

I saw the roads in the woods broaden out under the wheels of the carts in summer and by the sleds in winter. We were a church-going people then. We will not forget the old Methodist preacher who traveled about and asked for a gallon of oats for his horse—no half pecks then. Such people went to church.

The church had no ornamental pulpit, no carpeted floor, no cushioned seats, and often our feet rested on andirons. The fathers and mothers were strong, but died sooner than now. Early to bed and early to rise made the life work short. They had little of ideas for riches. They were working for homes; but without knowing it, they were preparing the way for roads from east to west, for great railways that now span the country and all great improvements.

What pleasure there was in the wood-chopping bees, and those house-raising and huskings. They had the comfort of knowing that the latchstring was always out. There were none but were welcome to their generous hospitality. As they were raised, so they raised their children.

But while these heroic men are honored, we too often fail to remember the struggles of the noble pioneer women, our mothers. Always busy, we never knew when they went to bed, nor when they arose. They cooked for the men working in the woods, with poor material. They made the woolen cloth, spun it, wove it, and ten to one, that they cut the garments at home. Where on earth did they get courage for the work? It was a gift from God.

There was nothing wanted that mother could not supply. Praise then the pioneers as you will, but when you come to the mothers, your tongues must be dumb. Talk about your heroes; if you want to find one never daunted, never

wanting in courage, take one of these old ladies for a pattern. I hope the day will never come when the old people will not be welcome.

THE PAST AND THE PRESENT.

BY SADE E. BAUGHMAN, MANSFIELD.

Extracts from a poem read at an historical society meeting.

Into an unbroken wilderness the early settlers came,
Clearing spots for their cabins and searching the forest for game.
And they were a hardy race of men, those grand old pioneers,
Who came to this unsettled country the fertile land to clear.

* * *

The women were brave and hardy, sharing dangers with the men,
And aided in field labor and their homes they helped defend.
We turn to the dear mothers as the needle turns to the pole,
And in neither verse nor story have their virtues been half told.

* * *

And we bless the noble pioneers, whose hands with toil were brown,
We will sing their praise through all the land for they deserve renown.
They left their homes and scenes of peace for log cabins in the woods,
Where dangers lurked at every turn, these men and women good.

* * *

They are in a land of light and promise we have never seen,
Where the streams are golden rivers and the forests ever green.
And dear forever be the graves and bright the flowering sod,
Where rest the grand old sires who loved their country and their God.

AN INTERESTING PAPER.

At a meeting of the Firelands Historical Society held in Norwalk, May 1, 1907, the following interesting paper was read by Mrs. W. A. Ingham, of Oberlin, who as one of the "old girls of Norwalk," was formerly Miss Mary B. Janes, daughter of Rev. John Janes, a Methodist Episcopal minister, who for many years was an honored citizen of Norwalk.

"Norwalk—chief city of the Firelands—our childhood home—was always, to us, enchanting; the wide streets bordered by rows of maples, the sandy soil and emerald turf were lovely in our eyes and yielding to little feet.

"In '41 my younger sisters and I were in the primary public schools—Lizzie Higgins our teacher; whose attractive face, drooping curls and gentle manner made her our friend even long after she wedded Hon. J. M. Farr, of the Experiment. Further on, Sarah Mason instructed little folks.

"At nine years of age, father and mother wisely placed me in Principal Edward Thomson's large Latin grammar class at the seminary—as a basis of my future discipline in various languages. A small member thereof gained the hearts of teacher and pupils by voluntarily, every morning, filling the wood-box, that the homely, oblong stove might diffuse warmth among us chilly linguists. He was,



MYRTLE AVENUE, CHICAGO, OHIO

then Dave Gray, now, D. S. Gray, a railroad magnate and philanthropist residing in Columbus, Ohio.

"Norwalk Seminary was by far the most popular academy of Ohio, and many substantial young men and women attended; among them Rutherford B. Hayes, Bishop William L. Harris, Governor Charles Foster, General McPherson, Judges Gershom M. Barber, Charles E. Pennewell and George E. Seney. The latter three I remember well, also Representative Francis Le Blond, whose personnel and chapel orations impressed me, an infinitesimal student, in a way altogether grand.

"Sarah Gray, Emeline Yocum and Ellen Dunn were intimates. We had a play-house in the seminary yard; of course we played 'school.' Our bell was a rusty tin basin. But I recall with pleasure Thirza, Delilah and David Allen, the Dunn boys, the Heath sisters, Julia, Talitha and Irene Pope, Sophia and Cornelia Steele, Lydia, Althea, Ann and Ambrose Beebe, the Bigelow sisters, McDonough and Cinderella Cary, Mary Jane Hoyt, Huldah Seeley, Mary Tillinghast, Sarah Shaffer, Thomas Cooper, E. P. Jones, Ann and Thomas Smith (what dimples Ann had!) who, with her mother, lived in the present Theodore Wooster house; Sophia Walker—handsome, with a trace of Indian blood; Jane Cook, who believed in Birney and Third Party—Free Soil, it was then. She died at school, universally mourned; indeed, a long procession seem, now, to pass before me as nameless shadows.

"In a short time promotion brought into Latin reader the four Marys: Mary Watrous, Mary Beardsley, Mary Tuttle, Mary Janes; the fifth member was a bright, genial girl, granddaughter of Platt Benedict—Sarah Gallup—whom I met in after years as the dignified Mrs. Henry Brown.

"Another seminary girl, older than we, was the blue-eyed, fair-haired Sarah Williams, who married Darwin Gardner, of Cleveland.

"It was a cruel fate that deprived us five girls and boys of our father, Rev. John Janes. He was so witty and wise, so kind and mindful. His untimely taking off is even yet a source of greatest grief; for years I could not see with composure a young girl sharing her father's protection and society. Mother mournfully gathered us about her—baby Johnny in her lap, brother Frank, three years old and recovering from severe illness, and us three sisters. Father's death in 1843 began an era for me; as oldest child I felt a responsibility and aged beyond my years. The first article ever written by me, appearing in print, were lines on father's taking away, carried to The Reflector office by Rev. Edward Thomson in February, 1843. In the next month I passed my eleventh birthday.

"It is interesting to note that The Reflector, aged and honorable, is about to celebrate its seventy-seventh Christmas. The time-honored journal ought to hold a diamond anniversary.

"Before the middle of that decade the dear old academy blossomed into the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, and into Baldwin Institute, Berea, Ohio. A Christmas tribute should here be paid to a very few who gave of their best years to Norwalk Seminary. Edward Thomson, a skeptical young man of Portsea, England, came to Wooster, Ohio, with his parents, studied medicine in that old town and was converted there. His deep learning, piety and gifts as orator and writer brought him to the head of our leading Methodist institution—from Norwalk to Cincinnati as editor, then president of Ohio Wesleyan. In all these positions he

was brilliant, capable and beloved. His successors at Norwalk were Rev. and Mrs. A. Nelson, Rev. and Mrs. Holden Dwight; all of whom needed only to be known to be forever remembered.

"In April, 1846, Rev. Mr. Dwight became principal of Baldwin Institute, but died in his prime the following November, greatly lamented. Theodore D. Shepherd, so long postmaster of the Maple City, was a nephew of Holden Dwight.

"Henry Buckingham, Alfred Henry Smith and myself were tutored in Virgil at my home, evenings, by Mr. Curtis, a law student. We lived on Main street; our place being the whole St. Charles Hotel corner plat. Shepherd Patrick had a dry goods store next to us; Obadiah Jenney kept the Mansion House nearly opposite; in a line with that were Theodore Williams' and the Stoutenburghs' stores. Across a narrow street, at the side, was the Presbyterian church. Mother, shrinking from the remote and almost inaccessible Methodist meeting-house, placed us in the beloved Sunday school, so near our home. Cortland Latimer was superintendent; John R. Osborn a prominent layman, and Rev. A. Newton, pastor. My Sabbath school teacher was Elizabeth Buckingham—a grand woman. The only two class members whom I can define were Belle Scott and Louise Latimer. A small host of town-girls were delightful friends: Harriet and Sarah Buckingham, Cecelia Jenney, who from her early years was a pronounced church woman, Martha and Ann Eliza Mallory, Emma Brown, Sarah Jane, Louise and Caroline Smith, Jane Rule, Cornelia Boalt, Rebecca and Sara Miller, and Laura Tifft, who married Dr. Seth Beckwith.

"The names of citizens, wide-wake then, are now chisled in marble and granite. Some of them live again in their children: Wickham, Kennan, Gibbs, Carter, Baker, Benedict, Gallup, Colonel James A. Jones and brothers, surely are honored yet in that community.

"I must mention three or four: Rev. Leonard B. Gurley belonged not simply to one church or village; Huron and Erie counties revered him, for he was orator, artist, poet and brilliant in prose, furnishing most rare contributions to the *Firelands Pioneer*. Who could forget Hon. and Mrs. S. T. Worcester and the Woosters? To my childish eyes no mansion, anywhere, seemed so palatial as Richard Vredenburgh's villa in the grove. There was nothing, ever, like those pillars!

"I cannot omit Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Strong. Mr. Strong came in 1873 to see mother dying in my Cleveland home, and bade her good-bye. He used to say that she was the most yesterday, today and forever woman he ever knew.

"Joel Blackman and wife, pioneers of Florence and later residents of Norwalk, were second parents to me in my beginning of life's career.

"It was one of my heart's chief delights, with my little hand in that of Lib Smith, to go out into the country, on the farms of Charles and Caleb Jackson, and the Dounce's not far off. Such apples and nuts, with popcorn, never, before nor since, circulated about a generous hearthstone.

"Right here our mother, Mrs. H. B. Janes, shall have her due. Messrs. Boalt and Worcester assisted her in the settlement of our estate. She read the statutes of Ohio, and becoming administratrix, secured the respect and confidence of citizens. Father owned property in Akron, Ohio, and there she chose her 'thirds.' It was the one great mistakes of our lives, to sell that valuable plat in Norwalk, and has ever been to us an inextinguishable sorrow.

"Before mother was twenty years of age she and her sister founded the First Methodist Episcopal church of Ann Arbor, Mich., and that is how father invited her to share his life and work.

"Mother did all she could for us children before leaving Norwalk. Four of father's nieces—two of whom mother had educated at the seminary, married stirring business men of Sandusky city; one of them, W. S. Mills, so long editor of the Register. The older of these four gentlemen was Leonard B. Johnson, whose hospitable home in the city and whose island in Sandusky bay, delighted us all.

"She had us know Milan, then in its prime, albeit Thomas A. Edison was not yet its most distinguished child. Lyme, Monroeville and especially Bellevue were dear to her. In person and in memory she was devoted to the Firelands—noble New England woman that she was!

"The fact must not be lost sight of that this is a Christmas article. When father died, mother chose a beautiful knoll under two great forest trees in St. Paul's church-yard, for the repose of her dead. No more charming spot could be outlined even in Mt. Auburn or Greenwood. Of course, 'God's acre' endeared us to St. Paul's—the oldest parish of Norwalk—founded in 1820. The sacred edifice itself, within and without, inspired us with awe, especially on Christmas Eve during 'illumination'—the chief anticipation of the whole year.

"Let us glance into 'the church' during its earliest Christmas carols. The women singers, we will say, were twelve in number; six of them married, dressed in black with bishop sleeves, white caps and poke bonnets; six young ladies arrayed in white, all the sweet faces with woman's crowning glory combed smoothly adown the cheek and over the ear. In their hands, all in a line, is the anthem prepared for the occasion, printed on fly-sheets:

"Strike the cymbal,
Roll the timbrel.'

"And again,

"Hosanna in the highest!"

"No dim religious light pervades the sanctuary, but an illumination from candelabra of wood suspended from the ceiling, perforated and holding in pyramidal shape a host of tallow candles. Across the middle of the eight windows, in a wooden frame, are lighted candles. The interior of the building is grand with festoons of groundpine wound by the young men and maidens of the parish. The supreme moment is when, all the people rising, the rector emerges from the vestry, wearing a white surplice and introducing in solemn tones the ritual, with 'Dearly beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness.'

"I love my prayer-book and the old established church which John Wesley never left, and I always loved to go to St. Paul's, expecting to see in the same places, year in and year out, standing to read the service, Mr. and Mrs. John Gardiner, Theodore Williams, Judge C. B. Stickney and the Chapin girls.

"The first rector I can recall, is Mr. O'Kill, a bachelor, who, out of the chancel, was a very social man; he paid court to the dashing Louise Burgess.

"A commanding figure, high in church circles, was Rev. S. A. Bronson, D. D., of Sandusky, pastor of Judge Ebenezer Lane there, also, presumably, of Rush

Sloane, our president; he was of a most genial personality and a power in the pulpit, who, in 1807, a babe in his mother's arms, came from Waterbury, Conn., to this Western Reserve, a pioneer of the pioneers. He was well known in St. Paul's pulpit, and to the satisfaction of everybody, married the elegant Louise Williams. I remember, also, Rev. Mr. Winthrop and Marion, nor should mention fail of chief vestryman for years—Charles E. Newman.

"Ever dear to me and mine will be that church-yard, in whose earth our family dust is absorbed—even though in glory as a cemetery is departed; in whose enclosure and grass-grown walks only neglect is apparent; where a horrible silence reigns; whose acres are untrodden by eager feet and over which no flower-laden hands ever, now, cause the grave to blossom in hope of the final resurrection!"

EXECUTION OF TWO INDIANS AT NORWALK.

In 1819, two Indians were tried and executed at Norwalk, for murder. Their names were Ne-go-sheck and Ne-gon-a-ba, the last of which is said to signify "*one who walks far.*" The circumstances of their crime and execution we take from the mss. history of the "fire-lands," by the late C. B. Squier, Esq.

In the spring of 1816, John Wood of Venice, and George Bishop of Danbury, were trapping for muskrats on the west side of Danbury, in the vicinity of the "two harbors," so called; and having collected a few skins, had lain down for the night in their temporary hut. Three straggling Ottawa Indians came, in the course of the night, upon their camp and discovered them sleeping. To obtain their little pittance of furs, etc., they were induced to plan their destruction. After completing their arrangements, the two eldest armed themselves with clubs, singled out their victims, and each, with a well-directed blow upon their heads, dispatched them in an instant. They then forced their youngest companion, Negasow, who had been until then merely a spectator, to beat the bodies with a club, that he might be made to feel that he was a participator in the murder, and so refrain from exposing their crime. After securing whatever was then in the camp that they desired, they took up their line of march for the Maumee, avoiding, as far as possible, the Indian settlements on their course.

Wood left a wife to mourn his untimely fate, but Bishop was a single man. Their bodies were found in a day or two by the whites, under such circumstances, that evinced that they had been murdered by Indians, and a pursuit was forthwith commenced. The Indians living about the mouth of Portage river, had seen these straggling Indians passing eastward, now suspected them of the crime, and joined the whites in the pursuit. They were overtaken in the neighborhood of the Maumee river, brought back and examined before a magistrate. They confessed their crime and were committed to jail. At the trial the two principals were sentenced to be hung in June, 1819; the younger one was discharged. The county of Huron had at this time no secure jail, and they were closely watched by an armed guard. They nevertheless escaped one dark night. The guard fired and wounded one of them severely in the body, but he continued to run for several miles, till tired and faint with the loss of blood, he lay down, telling his companion he should die, and urging him to continue on. The wounded man was found after the lapse of two or three days, somewhere in Penn township in a

dangerous condition, but he soon recovered. The other was recaptured near the Maumee by the Indians, and brought to Norwalk, where they were both hanged according to sentence.

In this transaction, the various Indian tribes evinced a commendable willingness that the laws of the whites should be carried out. Many of them attended the execution, and only requested that the bodies of their comrades should not be disturbed in their graves.

The larger part of the Indians that settled on the Firelands were tribes of the powerful Iroquois nation.

The Senecas, who were in the habit of passing through the southern part of Huron county, on their way to eastern hunting-grounds, were particularly fierce in appearance, bedecked in their barbaric garb of feathers and skins, but nevertheless were friendly.

On these hunting trips they would trade baskets, trinkets and game with the settlers in exchange for bread, meal or flour.

HONOR THE PIONEER MEN AND WOMEN.

FROM T. F. HILDRETH'S ADDRESS AT A MEETING OF THE FIRELANDS PIONEER SOCIETY.

As we recede farther and farther from the days of the pioneers, the lives of those who are still among us have a peculiar interest. These are the last vital lines that bind us to a whole generation that has nearly passed away, and we are left today with but a few of its living representatives.

The pioneer of today stands along the track of our civilization, like a weather-beaten finger-board pointing backward to the days of the far-off years. They are among us like the echo of some grand old hymn with which we used to be familiar, but the notes of which became fainter and more indistinct, as we get farther away from the years in which it was sung.

In the nature of the case the time can be but a little way off when the last one of these heroic men and women will have gone out from us. Indeed, the pioneer proper—those who first felled the forests, and blazed our highway, and transformed the wilderness into fruitful fields, are nearly all gone. Here and there, there is one left, connecting the life of our pushing, cultured generation, with one whose mode of living and deeds of daring—when told to us—seem more like fiction than reality.

If it is beautiful to see childhood holding the wrinkled hand that used to lead it, and steadying the feeble steps that used to guide it, why should not we cherish and honor the memory of those to whose care and economy we owe all we now have.

In the history of our pioneers it is eminently true that these have labored and we have entered into their labors. Nowhere can it be more certainly verified "that one soweth and another reapeth." It is according to the plans of God, that the results of every life shall reach beyond the term of its continuance.

There is danger, even though we have inherited the wealth produced by their care and economy, that we forget or neglect to crown the pioneers with the honors they so well deserve.

These annual meetings ought to have the dignity and inspiration of a public holiday in which the people unite to keep in perpetual remembrance the names and heroic deeds of those who so well laid the foundations of our civilization.

But few of the brave men and noble women of the pioneer days remain among us. The ring of the woodman's ax echoes no more through the aisles of the forest, and the lurid glare of blazing windows no more light up the night-sky, "for the former things have passed away." The log cabins—those most hospitable homes ever builded anywhere, by hands—have yielded to decay, and are superseded by cottages of beauty and homes of wealth. Here and there the old log-house has been spared by the hands that built it, as God has spared the few hardy pioneers who remain among us.

The men of today may be better educated for business and our women may be deemed more refined, as society estimates culture; but we shall never have a class of men of more stalwart integrity, nor a womanhood whose characters will shine with greater luster. It is to honor these heroes of the past, whose harvests of good we are now reaping, that we annually gather to repeat the story of their toils and triumphs, and to keep green the memories of those who have passed from labor to repose.

We began life with the accumulated advantages secured to us by their sacrifices and economy, and the record of our achievements ought to be more brilliant than theirs. While personal virtue cannot be received among the values we inherit from our ancestors, the tendencies to integrity may be builded into the very foundation of our being.

We are standing today in the twilight of receding physical and social conditions, and in the gloaming of a generation of which we may justly be proud to be its descendants. If the histories of the noble pioneers may not be found in our public libraries, we may reproduce them by the exhibition of their transcendent virtues.

HUNTING IN PIONEER TIMES.

Hunting was an important part of the employment of the early settlers. For some years the woods supplied them with the greater amount of their subsistence, and it was no uncommon thing for families to live several months without a mouthful of bread.

It frequently happened that there was no breakfast till it was obtained from the woods. Fur constituted the people's money; they had nothing else to give in exchange for rifles, salt and iron, on the other side of the mountains.

The fall and early part of the winter was the season for hunting the deer, and the whole of the winter, including part of the spring, for bears and fur-skinned animals. It was a customary saying, that fur was good during every month in which the letter "R" occurs.

As soon as the leaves were pretty well down, and the weather became rainy, accompanied with light snows, these men after acting the part of husbandmen as far as the state of warfare permitted, began to feel that they were now hunters and became uneasy at home, their minds being wholly occupied with the camp and chase.

Hunting was not a mere ramble in pursuit of game, in which there was nothing of skill and calculation; on the contrary, the hunter before he set out in the morning, was informed by the state of the weather where he might reasonably expect to find game, whether on the bottoms, the sides or the tops of the hills.

In stormy weather the deer always sought the most sheltered places, and the leeward side of the hills. In rainy weather, when there is not much wind, they kept in the open woods on high ground. In every situation it was requisite for the hunter to ascertain the course of the wind, so as to get the leeward of the game. As it was necessary, too, to know the cardinal points, he had to observe the trees to know them.

The bark of an aged tree is thicker and much rougher on the north than on the south side; and the same may be said of the moss. From morning till night the hunter was on the alert to gain the wind of his game, and approach him without being discovered.

If he succeeded in killing a deer he skinned it and hung it up out of the reach of the wolves, and immediately resumed the chase till the close of the evening, when he bent his course towards his camp; when arrived there he kindled up his fire, and together with his fellow hunter, cooked his supper. A place for a camp was selected as near water as convenient, and a fire was kindled by the side of the largest log that could be procured. The ground was preferred to be rather sideling that the hunters might lie with the feet to the fire, and the head up hill.

The common mode of preparing a repast was by sharpening a stick at both ends, and sticking one end in the ground before the fire and the meat on the other end. This stick could be turned round, or the meat on it, as occasion required. Sweeter roast meat than was prepared in this manner no European epicure ever tasted. Bread, when they had flour to make it of, was either baked under the ashes, or the dough rolled in long rolls, and wound round a stick like that prepared for roasting meat, and managed in this way. Scarce any one who has not tried it, can imagine the sweetness of such a meal, in such a place, at such a time. French mustard, or the various condiments used as a substitute for an appetite, are nothing to it.

Supper finished, the adventures of the day furnished tales for the evening, in which the spike-buck, the two and three pronged buck, and the doe, figured to great advantage.

Many of the sports of the early settlers of this country were imitation of the exercises and stratagems of hunting and war.

One important pastime of the boys—that of imitating the noise of every bird and beast in the wood—was a necessary part of the education on account of its utility under certain circumstances.

HURON COUNTY—THEN AND NOW.

BY J. H. DONALDSON.

READ BEFORE THE FARMER'S INSTITUTE AT GREENWICH, OHIO, FEBRUARY, 8, 1906.

Originally Huron county embraced all of the Firelands of five hundred thousand acres of land and was organized by an act of the general assembly of the state

of Ohio, passed February 7, 1809. The county included all of what is now Erie county except the territory taken from Sandusky county when Erie county was formed. The act of the general assembly of the state of Ohio by which the formation of Erie county was authorized was passed March 16, 1838, twenty-nine years following the passage of the act authorizing the formation of Huron county.

The first county seat of Huron county as first organized was Avery, selected by a committee appointed by the legislature on the farm of David Abbott near Milan now within the territory of Erie county.

The location of the county seat was not satisfactory to many of the settlers and an effort to have it removed to some other place was made and the legislature was induced on the 26th day of January, 1818, to appoint a committee to investigate the matter and locate the seat of justice at some other place if in their opinion it was best to change.

The infant village of Norwalk, scarcely two years old, was the place selected by this committee and the county seat was removed to this place. The county in 1811 had its boundaries changed and took in a large part of what is now Lorain county. Ruggles township belonged to the county until it was transferred to Ashland county February 26, 1846, the time when that county was formed, so that after having had slices taken from all its boundaries it now contains only three hundred three thousand, nine hundred and five acres of land instead of five hundred thousand acres and more, if we include the territory transferred to Lorain county, which it had originally.

It is bounded on the north by Erie county, on the east by Lorain and Ashland, on the south by Ashland, Richland and Crawford and on the west by Seneca and Sandusky counties. It has nineteen townships, as follows: Wakeman, Clarksfield, New London, Townsend, Hartland, Fitchville, Greenwich, Norwalk, Bronson, Fairfield, Ripley, Ridgefield, Peru, Greenfield, New Haven, Lyme, Sherman, Norwich and Richmond.

As the county is now constructed it seems strange that Norwalk, the county seat, should be located so near to the northern boundary. It must be remembered that when the county seat was located at Norwalk, Erie county was then a part of Huron county, and when the division was made the northern boundary came very close to Norwalk. For many years the settlers in the southern and central parts of the county had hopes that the county seat would some day be removed to North Fairfield. And when the Clinton Air Line Railway was in course of construction, bright visions of a magnificent courthouse sprang up before them. But when the railroad project failed their cherished hopes were blasted and their spirits died within them. North Fairfield now has a trolley line and the people are measurably happy.

Settlements were made in some of the townships as early as 1810, but it was from that time until 1825 before settlements were made in all of the townships, Ripley and Richmond being the last on the list. Greenwich township was settled in 1817.

The first authentic census of the county I have been able to find was taken by townships in 1827 and shows the county at that time to have a population of nine thousand, one hundred and ten as against a population of thirty-two thousand, three hundred and thirty in 1900.



PICTURESQUE CLARKSFIELD

A large majority of the early settlers of Huron county like those of other parts of the Western Reserve were of Connecticut birth. This gave a fixed character to the inhabitants. The old stock has given way to younger generations, but the same traits of character remain unchanged to any great extent. It is therefore not strange that many of the people of the county today are so nearly like, in many ways, the people of the Wooden Nutmeg State.

The early settlers of Huron county were a good people; generally speaking I believe they were Christians, yet they indulged in habits that didn't unchristianize them then, but would do so now. I refer to the use of strong drink. Everybody drank then. Even preachers imbibed and nothing was thought of it. But if a preacher used it as a beverage now he would lose his ministerial standing and pastorate as soon as the fact was known. I am speaking of Huron county. Whiskey was regarded as one of the necessary adjuncts of a log-rolling or a house-raising. No one dared for several years to undertake either without having the well filled jug in evidence. But the time came when the Yankee settler was convinced that the use of whiskey, even on these occasions, was evil and only evil and determined to put it away. But he thought of his slashing covered with logs ready to be put into heaps to burn, and his log barn which he could not get along without, yet, true to his convictions, when the invitations to his log rolling or raising went out, he said "no whiskey." He was told that his logs would not be rolled nor his building raised but they were, possibly with less help, but we venture with more safety. So the time honored custom was gradually wiped out and today the whiskey jug is not a drawing card, especially to the rural people of our county.

It is difficult for us to understand the trials and hardships that the pioneers of this county had to undergo in a journey from the east to this place. No public conveyances, no railroads, and even the stage coach was only thought of as a future possibility. The journey then required weeks and sometimes months, and was supposed to be full of danger from start to finish, and the danger was not over when here for the country was infested with wild animals while roving bands of Indians were a menace to the lives of the early settlers. In view of these facts we do not wonder that the "good-byes" were often pathetic in the extreme.

A lady and her husband emigrated to Huron county in 1829 and settled in Ripley township where they builded for themselves a home which they occupied until called to the one not made with hands. I have a letter in my possession bearing date of November 26, 1829, written by this lady to her friends in the east, after she was settled in her little log cabin in her Huron county home. In this she recounts the sad partings from her friends, the trials and perils of her journey and the hardships attendant on the beginning in those days of a home in the woods. Seventy-five years later a granddaughter of this lady went 'round the world with less misgivings and forebodings on the part of herself and friends.

The Indians frequently committed depredations and the lives of the settlers that came within their power were not always safe. A true incident which occurred in another part of the county illustrates what I mean. The story is of a woman, and I have it from her own lips, who was alone in her cabin one bright day and while seated at her little wheel spinning an Indian came in at the open door and stepping to her side with raised tomahawk, said in his broken English, "Me tomahawk you." The lady made no outcry and her wheel kept running, but the

Indian who regarded the situation as one of bravery on the part of the woman said, "brave woman, me no tomahawk you." The Indian left the cabin and the woman was unharmed save a bad scare. The settlers most of all feared the wild animals and the Indians, now the fear of the country people is about equally divided between the lightning rod agent and all other members of that family, the trolley car and the automobile.

The spinning wheel was a necessity and used in every household, but now if in the house at all it is stowed away in the garret out of sight or in the parlor as an ornament, according to the taste of the owner.

The food of the settler was of the plainest kind, consisting chiefly of mush and milk, Johnny cake or bread of coarsely ground flour or meal. Venison was common and a little later on shack fatted pork was not hard to obtain. In the course of time more dainty dishes were in evidence, especially for company. The following incident occurred about this time, if it ever did occur:

A young man called unexpectedly on his best girl. The evening family meal was about ready, but now that they had company something better must be prepared, so the mush and milk were set aside. When supper was called the young man was asked to say grace and this is what he said: "The Lord be praised how I'm amazed to see how things have mended; short-cake and tea for supper I see, where mush and milk were intended."

Dogs did not figure in the early history of the county for then they were not taxed, so we have no means of knowing how many there were, but according to the auditor's late report there are now one thousand, one hundred and ten. It is fair to presume, however, that some got away just before the assessor made his rounds.

Then there were no railroads, now there are one hundred and sixty miles of main track and ninety-eight miles of siding, making a total of two hundred and fifty-eight miles, with a valuation of two million, four hundred and ninety thousand dollars, which brings a revenue to the county by way of taxes of fifty-two thousand, two hundred and four dollars.

Money was scarce among the early settlers and hard to get. About the only money crop was black salts or potash. This was made from ashes obtained by the burning of log heaps and had a market value. Now our money comes through other and various sources. Then the matter of postage was burdensome to the settlers, sometimes being as high as twenty-five cents per letter. Now two cents will carry a letter anywhere within the domains of "Uncle Sam." Besides we have free rural mail delivery, which was not even in the dreams of the early settler. Then telegraphs and telephones were unknown, now they are so common and useful that they have long since ceased to be a novelty.

The observance of Christmas time was brought to this county by the early pioneers. The children were not forgotten on these occasions. I fancy I see a row of little stockings hanging in the little log cabin in the woods. They hang near the fire-place to be convenient for Santa Claus who was supposed to come down the chimney. Stockings are hung now and filled with gifts more elaborate and costly, yet the children then were no less happy than now.

Sometimes sadness comes to our homes even on these occasions; now more frequently than then because there are more chances for accidents. A little boy

in Cleveland on the day before last Christmas went shopping for Christmas toys. On his return home in getting off the car in some way he fell under the wheels which crushed his lower limbs and otherwise severely injured him. As they picked him up he said, "I'm killed, I'm killed," but raising one hand, in which he tightly held a little cart, he said, "This is for brother Willie; give it to him and tell him I bought it for him."

It must be remembered that Huron county was heavily timbered and a portion of which must be cleared away before even the cabin of the settler could be erected; then, acre after acre must be cleared for the growing of crops. From our point of view this would seem like a Herculean task and but few if any of our young people today would have the courage to undertake it. But the heroes and heroines of nearly a hundred years ago labored on overcoming obstacle after obstacle and as a result of their well directed efforts we have today fertile farms, pleasant and happy homes dotted all over Huron county. We owe a debt of gratitude to these people the fruits of whose efforts we so richly enjoy.

MEMORIAL DAY MUSINGS.

The graves of soldiers are, in a certain sense, like those of the saints, on an equality. The place where an officer is buried, like that of a private, is simply the grave of a soldier. Death obliterates all rank, class and distinction. The grave of an humble christian is on an equality with that of a prelate, for—"The graves of all His saints He blest." While in death all are equal, each while living has his individual part and place.

Upon a bloody page of history is recorded American bravery and devotion to principle excelled nowhere else in the annals of the world. It is the story of the Alamo. For several days the Mexican army under Santa Ana had bombarded the fortress, and on February 23, 1836, the Alamo was stormed—four thousand infuriated Mexicans against one hundred and eighty-three Americans (Texan patriots). Charge after charge had been repelled and for every patriot killed, a dozen Mexicans bit the dust. When the Mexicans entered the last enclosure, but six of the defenders of the Alamo were alive—Crockett and five of his comrades. Santa Ana's chief of staff then implored Crockett to surrender and thus spare the lives of his comrades and himself. But Crockett would not surrender. And when the Mexicans made the final charge, the last man of the little band of patriots was shot down. The Alamo was taken, but its capture cost Santa Ana one thousand and five hundred of his army of four thousand men.

Every man of the little American band of the defenders of the Alamo died at his post. Thermopylæ had its messenger of defeat—the Alamo had none.

"Remember the Alamo," was the rallying cry of the Texan patriots when General Houston defeated Santa Ana at Jacinto, which victory assured the independence of Texas and its annexation to the American Union.

Gen. Sam Houston, in after years, in a speech at San Antonio, said that, "Whatever state gave us birth, we have one native land and one flag." This patriotic sentiment struck a responsive chord in the vast audience before him, and as the American flag was displayed from the Alamo, thousands of smaller flags were waved—the greatest flag scene in American history. The thunder of

cannon was answered by the thunder of voices and the clapping of hands. In answer to this demonstration, Governor Houston said: "Far off, far off, yet louder than any noise on earth, I hear from the dead years and the dead heroes of the Alamo the hurraing of spirit-voices and the clapping of unseen hands."

Patriotism has ages for its own, and the history of heroic deeds lives after nations perish.

There was a law in ancient Greece that "He that receives his death while fighting in the front battle shall have an annual oration spoken in his honor." But Americans need no decree to honor their soldier dead. Prompted by the fulness of grateful hearts they decorate their graves each returning May time. No matter if those graves are beneath the sleeping shadows of the pines or beneath the sun-kissed verdure of unsheltered sod, whether in the beautiful cemeteries of the North, or whether they are simply unmarked graves in the chastened South, or in the islands of the sea, whether the storms rage over them or whether the birds fill the air with the melody of their songs, the hallowed graves of American soldiers are everywhere revered and honored.

WAR EVENTS AND INCIDENTS.

The first battle of the civil war was fought at Phillippi, West Virginia, June 3, 1861. In that engagement the Union troops, under command of Colonel Kelley, defeated the rebels, killing fifteen of their men. While this battle was comparatively small in the number of men engaged, it was of great importance in shaping the events which followed and occupies a conspicuous place in the history of the war of the rebellion. The victory there won was as inspiring to the North as it was discouraging to the South.

Phillippi is an historical name. This is not the Phillippi where Brutus fell, but the Phillippi where the Union troops conquered. There was a Scotch tradition that—

"Which spills the foremost foeman's life,
That party conquers in the strife."

The fate of the battle was often anticipated in the imagination of the combatants by observing which party first shed blood. It is said that the Highlanders under Montrose were so deeply imbued with this notion, that on the morning of the battle of Tippermoor, they murdered a defenseless herdsman, whom they found in the fields, merely to secure an advantage which they thought was of so much consequence to their party. They also believed that the fate of a war hung upon the result of its first battle. This Scottish tradition was verified in the American war of the rebellion, as it had frequently been in the clannish contests between the Highlanders and Lowlanders of Scotland centuries ago.

The day following the morning after the battle of Phillippi a captain of the Fifteenth Ohio Infantry had charge of the troops picketing one of the roads, with instructions to arrest any person who attempted to enter or leave the town. While the people of that vicinity knew that Colonel Potterfield and his rebel force were stationed at Phillippi, and that the Union troops were in possession of Graf-ton, and that the armies being so near to each other a battle might be expected at any time, when the cannonading began at early dawn upon the 3rd day of

June, it awakened the country people of Barbour county as they had never been aroused before. After the noise and smoke of battle had ceased and passed away, men attempted to go to town to learn the result. In so doing, twenty-three men were placed under arrest by the Richland county officer before mentioned. The officer took his prisoners into the town and reported at headquarters. He was ordered to take them out and have them shot. War business was new to all then, and there had been no time to learn the rules, regulations and laws governing the same. This order seemed an unnecessarily murderous one, and the young captain was reluctant to carry it into execution. Then his knowledge of the law came to his relief, that although he had been ordered to have the men shot, no time had been set for the execution. Therefore, he concluded to defer carrying out the order, hoping to have it revoked. It happened during the day that a higher officer took command at Phillippi, to whom the Richland county captain presented the case and the order was revoked and the prisoners were permitted to return to their homes.

It was fortunate for those prisoners that the Richland county captain was a gentleman of humane feeling. Some officers might have hastily executed the order without an effort to have it reconsidered and recalled.

A story is told that early in the eighteenth century, in a Scotch camp, an orderly who had charge of burying the dead after a battle, reported to the young laird of Lochnow, who was in command, saluted and said: "Sir, there is a heap of fellows lying out yonder who say they are only wounded and won't let us bury them like the rest. What shall we do?"

"Bury them at once," replied the commander, "for if you take their word for it they won't be dead for a hundred years to come." The orderly saluted and started off to carry out the order, and the commander had to dispatch a counter order in haste to prevent his joke from becoming a tragedy.

Another incident has been given. Prisoners were once brought before Sir William Howard, who was an enthusiastic mathematician. Sir William was deep in his studies when the prisoners were marched into the castle court yard, and a lieutenant ran in to get orders for their disposal. Enraged at being interrupted in his studies, Sir William exclaimed, "Hang the prisoners!" and went on with his work. After he had finished his problem he went down to learn about the prisoners and with what they had been charged, and was horrified to learn that his exclamation, "Hang the prisoners," had been taken for an order and that the prisoners had all been executed.

A ROMANCE OF REAL LIFE.

A Huron county romance in real life, although ungarnished in the narration, may be more interesting to many readers than would be an embellished tale of foreign fiction.

Thomas Ream and Kathryn Rolfe were children and schoolmates in the antebellum years and their parents were neighbors and owned farms in one of the most beautiful townships of Huron county.

The children were friends from their infancy. Their confidence in and attachment for each other showed the beauty of that faith and love which sometimes sets two hearts voyaging on the wondrous sea of the future.

Thomas was born in 1840 and Kathryn a few years later. A school incident occurred in the winter of 1850 that was as amusing to the scholars as it was embarrassing to Thomas and Kathryn. He had written her a note which was against the rules of the school, and being intercepted by the teacher, was read aloud, as follows:

"Dear Kate: I take my pen in hand to inform you that I slipped a big red apple in your dinner basket and when you eat it please think of me.

The pizen vine climbs a holler stump,
And you are as sweet as a sugar lump.
Your lover,
TOM.

The scholars laughed when this was read, which the teacher thought was the proper thing for them to do, but Kate cried and Tom looked defiant. However, the incident only drew them closer in the bonds of affections and increased their attachment for each other.

Those were the good old school days of a generation ago, when children went to school to work—to study and to recite—with corn-pone and spare-ribs for a noonday lunch, with an occasional recreation of an hour on the dunce block, for discarding "thumb-papers" and soiling books, or for other acts of omission or commission.

"Oh were you ne'er a schoolboy,
And did you never train
To feel that welting on the back
You hope ne'er to feel again!"

Thomas was a bright, capable boy, and his parents intended him for one of the learned professions. But how differently things turn out often from what was intended—how people are moulded and changed by circumstances and events!

The memorable spring of 1861 ushered in the great war of the rebellion, just as Thomas was preparing to enter an eastern college. The patriotic blood of a revolutionary ancestry flowed warmly through Thomas' veins, and he promptly responded to his country's call for troops to defend its flag. That war is long since a thing of the past, and since then the north and the south have marched together against a common foe, and step by step have kept time to the mingled notes of the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Dixie," blending into the noblest battle hymn that ever thrilled and inspired soldiers to deeds immortal.

Thomas was one of the first to enlist and in a few days he must leave for the front. But first he must bid Kathryn good-bye, and felt as though he could not leave until he first had an open avowal of the love he knew to be his. He called at the house, but was informed that Kathryn had gone down the gravelled

walk towards the stream. He followed and found her sitting upon the bank, looking pensively over the sparkling waters of the Huron river, as they rippled over the pebbled bottom and coursed gracefully with a musical murmur between the green banks.

There was a sadness in the greeting of these young people, for each felt that that was their last meeting—at least for years. They talked at first upon indifferent topics, each dreading to mention the subject of the war, and as he sat and watched her sweet face in a fading sunlight, he almost regretted that he had placed himself in a position that forced him to leave her. The sunset faded out and the moon threw the shadows of the trees at their feet, and a spell of peace seemed to hover over the earth, making them almost forgetful of the coming war and of the uncertainties of the future.

Love interviews, proposals and betrothals are difficult to narrate and describe, especially by one who has never passed through nor witnessed such scenes; therefore, suffice to state sententiously that ere this couple parted, they were engaged, looking forward to their marriage at the close of the war. And thus they separated, she to go to her quiet home, he to take his place in the grand army of the Union, as it went forth to put down the rebellion. Six years later Thomas and Kathryn met again, but under unlooked-for circumstances and conditions.

In one of the great battles of the war, Thomas was wounded, captured and confined for two years in a southern prison and for many months all his friends in the north knew of him was that he was among the "missing."

During the interim, other trouble was added to Kathryn's sorrow. Her father's health failed, and a change of climate—a trip to California—was recommended. Kathryn was to go with him and this, she felt, would place her farther from her soldier-lover, whom she confidently believed still lived, and as she prepared for the journey, she hoped each evening that word would come from him on the morrow. But none came, and it was months after she was on the Pacific coast ere news reached Farmer Ream that his son was in Libby prison. But Thomas lived through that terrible imprisonment, was finally exchanged, took his place again in the ranks and served from the beginning to the end of the war.

If Thomas ever wrote to Kathryn after he was taken prisoner, she never received his letters and time and events drifted them from each other and kept them apart.

Kathryn's father's health came back to him and he concluded to make California his permanent home, and while the daughter rejoiced over her father's restoration, she still grieved for her lover and was in doubt and suspense as to his fate. She, however, found comfort in her household cares and consolation in the observance of her Christian duties. She regularly attended religious service and one summer evening she was especially devout, and as she looked at the cross, the chancel lights seemed like resplendent stars casting a halo of glory upon the altar. She knelt and worshipped, forgetful of earthly cares and of earthly sorrow. But, presently she was startled, imagining she heard her lover's voice in the litany responses. In vain she looked over the small congregation, but he was not there. She then realized it was only a fancy or delusion caused by the mind being over-strained with anxiety and suspense—an auricular phantasm resultant from tense of brain and nerve.

After four years of war peace came again to the land, and the boys in blue came "marching home." Thomas was with the number and was the hero of that neighborhood, and was loved by the young maidens for the dangers he had passed.

Among the young ladies who smiled bewitchingly upon the returned soldier was Ellen Moore, whose father, during Thomas' absence, had moved into the neighborhood and bought a farm whose broad acres covered the valley and skirted the hills. Ellen, even as a girl, was as plain as her name, but one of the most estimable of her sex. Ellen was the very opposite of Kathryn, for the latter was talented, brilliant and beautiful and capable of adorning any station in life.

The beautiful girl on the Pacific coast was neglected, if not forgotten, and Thomas Ream paid court to the matter-of-fact Ellen Moore, and within the year they were married.

In the meantime, Kathryn Rolfe, hearing of Ream's return, waited long and impatiently for him to visit her. She had given him her love, had promised to be his bride and how prayerfully, how hopefully, how despondently at times, she had waited during five long years for his return and for the fulfillment of his promise. But as he came not she must come to him, she must see him once more, must hear from his own lips if he still loved her. She crossed the continent and arrived in her old home village on a Saturday night. The next day she accompanied the family to church. A few moments later a bride and groom entered the church, it being their "appearance" day. The groom was Thomas Ream and the bride was Ellen Moore, that was.

This pen will not attempt to describe the feelings of disappointment, of chagrin and of sorrow that may have swayed poor Kathryn's mind, or how the blow may have bruised her heart. Upon leaving the church their eyes met for a moment, then they passed on. What each read in the other's eyes is among the things that are sealed.

Kathryn returned home, where, a few years later, she married a prominent lawyer, and they live and rank with the best of the people in the city at the Golden Gate.

Thomas Ream and wife settled upon a farm, have prospered in the world and seem to be happy.

As the purpose of this article is to state facts, not to explain actions, no cause can be given for Ream's actions in discarding the girl whom he loved in his youth.

In his courtship with her he looked hopefully forward to a professional career, in which he expected to succeed, for, as Bulwer wrote, in the lexicon of youth, which fate reserves for a bright manhood, there is no such word as fail. But when he concluded to be a farmer, as his father was before him, then he wanted a wife whose mind would be content with counting the profits on butter and eggs, rather than attending club meetings, dances and theaters.

There may still be a romantic warm spot in Ream's heart for the Kathryn of long ago, who has no connection with his present life.



CENTRAL AND SOUTH SIDE OF FIRE-PROOF MUSEUM, NORWALK

PIONEER MEN AND WOMEN OF OHIO.

BY A. J. BAUGHMAN.

PAPER READ AT THE MEETING OF THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY HELD AT CLARKSFIELD, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1899.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

I have read of the "Firelands;" I have from passing trains looked with admiration upon your fertile fields and well-kept farms, and from the late Rev. D. Bronson, whose early life was passed in this part of the state, and who was my rector, for eighteen years, I learned much that was interesting of the early history of your county. I know your first settlers came from Connecticut, and I have never yet known a people who were ashamed of a New England ancestry.

I come from old Richland county—from the crest of the great "divide," the water-shed between the lake and the gulf. I come from a county made somewhat famous as having been for a number of years the home of John Chapman—better known as "Johnny Appleseed"—who came west abreast with civilization and planted nurseries along our streams and throughout our valleys that the pioneers and their children might enjoy the fruits of the earth. Johnny lived an exemplary Christian life and was a benefactor of his race. He loved to ramble in the forests, to listen to the singing of the birds, to look at the stars, and in his Swedenborg faith, commune with ministering spirits and angels. Chapman's death was in harmony with his blameless life. When the death-angel touched him with his cold finger, Johnny's eyes shone with light supernal, a smile wreathed his lips as they moved in prayer and a halo seemed to crown him with the glory of a saint as he passed from the life here to the life eternal. Since then, more than fifty years have come and gone down the echoless aisles of time, but the story of "Johnny Appleseed" is told from generation to generation, and his good deeds live anew every springtime in the beauty and fragrance of the appleblossoms he loved so well.

I claim a lineal right to speak for the pioneers of Richland county, for my grandfather Baughman was the first white settler in the Blackfork Valley, near the historic old Indian village of Greentown, now in Ashland county. And my mother's father—Capt. James Cunningham—built the third cabin in Mansfield, boarded the surveying party that platted the town site, and later served his country as a captain in the war of 1812, as his father—John Cunningham (an Irishman)—had served as a soldier in all the long and bloody struggle of the war of the Revolution.

Europe was peopled by larger bodies of men moving from one country to another. But America was settled by a slower process. Those men emigrated collectively—here they came severally, and were called "pioneers," because they fore-ran the column of civilization.

The pioneers of Ohio were men of "brain and brawn," of courage and perseverance. Of their work, adventures and achievements enough has not been written, for theirs was not the age of literature. It has been said that the annalist of that period left his note-book to his son, who lost it while moving farther west. We know, however, that they endured privations, that they encountered dangers, that they worked hard and accomplished much.

The early history of Ohio tells of a period in the settlement of America when civilization crossed the crest of the Alleghenies in its march across the continent, as "Westward the Star of Empire took its Way."

Ohio, being on the frontier, was, in part, the battleground of the war of 1812, and the result of the conflicts, engagements and battles may be summarized in the dispatch of the immortal Perry: "We met the enemy, and they are ours."

During that war a great number of volunteers passed through our part of Ohio, and observed the gentle swell of its uplands, the fertility of its valleys, the magnificence of its forests, its copious springs and abounding streams, and when the war was over, many who had traversed the country as soldiers returned after their discharge, entered land, built cabins and made Ohio their home.

We feel grateful as a people and proud as a nation when we reflect upon the wonderful achievements of the century! In all the history of the world we find no parallel to American progress. Beautiful cities have supplanted the wigwam villages of a hundred years ago, and where unbroken forests then spread their leafy branches, and tangled weeds held undisputed sway in the valleys, the land is now teeming with its wealth of fruitful orchards and fields of golden grain.

As I have spoken of men as pioneers, permit me in conclusion to pay a tribute to the women of that period.

The pioneer women did not clerk in stores, but she sold butter and eggs, knit socks and made garments and ministered to the wants and comfort of her family. She did not write shorthand, nor keep books, but she wrote on the unstained tablet of the human heart that line upon line and precept upon precept by which life is made a holy thing, and which, if a soul heeds, it may bask in the Father's house in which there are many mansions. She did not build memorials in brick and stone, but she built that best earthly house—a home, in which children grew up in her love and care.

The pioneer woman did not ride a wheel, but she had a spinning-wheel, and the thread she spun was fine and smooth, and the hum of the spinning was music sweet to the household.

The pioneer woman did not build hospitals, but her cabin was a wayside inn, and she herself was both physician and nurse. And not in her own home only, but wherever fever burned or disease wasted, there her hand ministered, for every true pioneer woman was a sister of mercy and a friend of the poor.

The pioneer woman did not paint on china, but there are pictures in our memory in which our dear old pioneer mother is the central figure; pictures that all the storms of life cannot blot, nor scorching sunlight fade. Pictures of home, pictures of the scenes of our childhood, pictures dear to every man who loved his mother.

After the reading of the paper by Doctor Shelden, Judge Wildman arose and spoke as follows: "I am told that in the absence of the Hon. Rush R. Sloane, as president of the Firelands Historical Society, the duty devolves upon me, as first vice-president, of presiding at your gathering today. It is a great delight to me to come back to Clarksfield where I was born and where I spent some of the happiest years of my boyhood, as many of you know, especially of the older people here, and to see so many familiar faces and so many familiar places. In a letter which I received some days ago from Doctor Weeks, he suggested that it is now one hundred years since the organization of what is known as the Northwest

Territory, comprising what is now the state of Ohio and some of the other states of the Union; he also suggested that this would be a fit occasion for the presentation of a talk or paper upon the event which is now one hundred years gone,—the beginning of organized government in the territory embraced in that great extent of what was then mainly a wilderness, known as the Northwest Territory. Doctor Weeks has prepared a paper on this subject and it will be read at this time."

PIONEER TIMES.

A description of a pioneer log-cabin and of the pioneer home-life, may not be without its interest to the reader of the present day.

The location of the cabin decided upon, the space cleared away, and suitable timber having been selected, felled, partially hewn, and cut into proper lengths, it remained to "raise" the cabin. Word having been given out, the settlers for miles around gathered to their new neighbor's clearing, glad to lend a helping hand. A man of experience in such matters was selected as captain or leader; other expert men, axe in hand, were posted at the corners to cut saddles or notches in the logs that they might lie more firmly and closer together, the ends of the logs often overlapping and projecting for a foot or more. The logs having been previously drawn to a convenient nearness by oxen, to the major part of the company was assigned the duty of conveying the logs to the intended structure; sometimes the combined strength of the party sufficed to lift them up and carry them, but oftener skids and handspikes were called into use; in either case the work was done with a will scarce needing the energetic tones and sharp commands constantly used by the leader. Accidents were not uncommon; severe strains often resulted from one man trying to out-do another, while sometimes a log slipped or fell, striking a man down in its descent, and breaking his leg or arm. The log-carriers were sometimes divided into squads, or parties, each having a particular end to keep up, and the resulting rivalry made the task a short one, the building being rarely over a single story in height. The cabin fairly raised, and the roof poles put in position, the remaining work of finishing the cabin could be performed more leisurely without the help of so many hands.

The roof was made by laying small logs or saplings, the tamarack being often used, which were placed lengthwise. These formed a support for the shingles or "shakes," as they were often called. These were much longer than the shingles of later years, and, when laid, about three feet was exposed to the weather. They were generally rived or split out of straight-grained, full-grown white-oak trees. Nails being then almost unknown, and those few forged by hand, their use was out of the question, and the shingles were secured by laying poles or logs to keep them in position. The chimney was often composed of "cats and clay," the cats in question not being the familiar household tabby, but small sticks split to a regular size. The base was formed of stone, often undressed bowlders, and on this superstructure the chimney was built, generally outside, and at the end of the cabin, the cats forming a framework which was heavily daubed and plastered with clay. As for openings, the door usually was rived planks, unless the neighborhood was the happy possessor of a "thunder-gust" sawmill. The hinges and latches were made of wood. Glass was a luxury rarely met with. Some-

times greased paper served as a substitute, and the windows were small, the usually open door being another medium for the admission of light. Often, for months, the ground served for a floor, but, after a time, boards or "puncheons" were split out for that purpose; they were hewed a little, consequently they were never very smooth, often quite shaky. Holes were bored in the logs and pegs driven in, on which to hang the various articles of wearing apparel and household use—a place to hang the rifle not being forgotten. These pegs served as a support for shelves and even for beds. But regular bedsteads, cheap and common enough looking these days, were soon introduced, many settlers bringing them with them from Connecticut, and, for the children, "trundle-beds" were in common use. The cabin generally consisted of but a single room. In the warmer months much of the work of cooking, washing, etc., was performed outside, under the friendly shade of some convenient tree. At other times the one room served the purpose of kitchen, dining-room, parlor, closet and bed-room combined. The larger boys generally slept in the garret, access being had by a flight of rude stairs or a ladder; and in the winter season the snow often found its way between the loosely placed shingles, so that in going to bed they "made tracks" with alacrity. Rude benches, long enough to seat two or three persons, made of planks split and shaved, served as chairs. In the plank, holes were bored and sticks inserted, to serve as legs or supports. Household utensils were as scanty as the furniture, a single pot or skillet often having to do duty many times over in preparing a meal. Tinware was scarce and dear, stoves of course unknown, and as for saving fuel, that was of but little moment, the huge fire-places admitting a stick as long and as heavy as a man would care to carry.

The fire on the hearth is one of the pleasant memories of early days; on a winter's evening, with familiar faces grouped around, the scene is most inviting. Is the sacrifice of old comforts to modern plans always without loss? The bright light of the blazing logs often rendered candles or lamps unnecessary, and the fire being easily kept up and rarely suffered to die out for months together, the modern invention of matches, now indispensable, was more easily got along without. Clocks were the luxury of the few, but were a few years later introduced and sold at high prices by peddlers, the housewife noting the hours by the sunlight streaming through the open door or window and casting a shadow of the wall upon the floor.

The food of the settler was "johnny-cake" and mush, or bread of coarsely-ground flour or meal. Milk was freely used, butter often dispensed with and rarely of the best quality, and cheese unknown. Pork and venison were always at hand; wild turkey, squirrel and other game easy to obtain. Sugar from the maple was frequently to be had, and tea and coffee were often replaced by decoctions of sassafras, spice-bush and parched corn. As for food, the variety and manner of cooking were quite tolerable to those settlers fortunate in having a good start and a little money, otherwise they often suffered for necessities, and being put on short rations was not an uncommon experience.

In respect to clothing, the contrast with the present time was more noticeable. Deerskin was largely used for men's clothing. It would wear a long time, but its adaptability was sadly lessened by the ease with which it would absorb water. A man getting a pair of deerskin trousers thoroughly wet would soon find them

lengthened and dangling at his heels so as to seriously interfere with locomotion, and, after hanging them up to dry at night, would, on the following morning, find them almost as stiff as if made of cast iron.

The loom and spinning wheel were found in every household, and the women, besides making and knitting yarn, made cloth of flax and wool, often combining the different materials into a coarse fabric known as linsey-woolsey. The barks of trees furnished coloring matter, and the making of the garments was completed without calling into requisition any greater skill than the household afforded. But these "home manufacturers" could not "compete" with the "pauper labor" of New England; and first came the calicoes and brown muslins, dear at first, doubly so from cost of transportation, handling, and especially from the scarcity, but very soon so cheap no one could afford to invest money to make them. Not long afterwards satinets and jeans were introduced for men's wear, and very soon the loom had no further place in the household, and the spinning wheel was soon afterward laid aside. More recently the sewing machine, books of patterns, and ready-made boots, hats and clothing have come into general use,—the latter commodity no longer content with becoming the apparel of men, but of women also.

The settler provided with shelter, the work of clearing, grubbing and burning away the forest and inclosing his fields must be commenced. This is to be his main vocation, especially in the winter season, for long years to come. He must rise early and work late, nor is the labor itself easy or inviting. As timber and wood have no marketable value, they are simply an incumbrance to be got rid of; occasionally, however, a fine tree is saved for rails or other use. The manner of clearing, too, is different from that of later years. A shorter, less laborious method must be adopted—the labor of felling the trees is often avoided by "girdling" or "deadening" them. The ascent of the sap being arrested by cutting notches entirely around the trunk, the tree dies, and the trunk becomes dry and is burned in much less time than if it was felled in the first instance and allowed to lie on the damp ground; and besides, after a time many of the trunks are blown over, and the labor of chopping them down avoided. Some trees, the beech and maple for instance, begin to topple and fall after the third year.

Grain and other crops were often raised in the girdling. After a time the number of fallen trunks interferes with cultivation, and selecting a dry time, they are set fire to. This burning is systematically done; a hundred fires are set, and the woods and skies are soon darkened by the smoke. To watch and tend the fires, to cut down an occasional "stub" which is left standing, is the work of the settler, which is prolonged far into the night, when the bright flames light up the surrounding forests, and make a scene of beauty upon which he loves to linger and look. In order to facilitate the burning of the larger logs, fires are set at different points so as to burn them in two. In some places this is called "niggering." When the work is sufficiently advanced, the settler invites his neighbors, who turn out with the same alacrity and willingness they would to a raising. With long hand-spikes, the burning logs are rolled together into great heaps. Working in the smoke, treading on hot ashes and embers, facing blazing fires, and at the same time exerting all the strength they possess, the task is no

light or easy one; but the work is done with a will, and a hearty "now all together" that shows them in earnest. The task accomplished, the scene is often changed into merry-making; a hearty supper is prepared, and liquid refreshments are not wanting.

RUGGLES, FORMERLY IN HURON COUNTY.

Ruggles township was so called after Judge Almon Ruggles, the surveyor of the Firelands. In 1815, eight years before the first settlement in the township, Judge Ruggles owned five hundred and eighty-two acres in the second section. Barlow Sturges also owned one hundred and twenty acres. This is all the account given of the land holders at that time. Ruggles belonged to Huron county until the erection of Ashland county in 1846, to which county it has since been attached.

The central portions of the township are level, the eastern and southern slightly undulating, the western and northern considerably broken and uneven. It was originally a dense forest, of which the beech constituted the greater part, though the maple, elm, basswood, hickory, whitewood and ash were by no means wanting, while the higher lands abounded with the finest oaks, and along the streams grew the black walnut, the butternut and the sycamore.

In the central portions of the township the soil is clayey, while in other parts it is for the most part a gravelly loam, and well adapted to either grazing or the raising of grain. There are two stone quarries, one in the north part on Mr. Charles Curtiss' farm; the other in the west part, on Wakeman Beach's farm. The township is free from marshes or waste lands, while it is excellently well drained by the Vermillion river and its tributaries. The main stream crosses the south line nearly two miles east of the southwest corner, and flows north-westwardly, leaving the township just south of the northwest corner. Its principal tributary, Buck creek, comes from Troy, crosses the east line three-fourths of a mile south of the center road, and runs northwestwardly to the north part of the township, when it receives the waters of another creek, which drains the southeast corner, and then runs westerly to join the Vermillion. In the southern part, Whetstone creek runs west to the Vermillion. Another creek, west of the river, runs northeast till it joins the main stream.

In 1823, Mr. Daniel Beach and Bradford Sturtevant came to Ruggles with a view of purchasing lands, and in June of the year above named, bought of Messrs. Jesup and Wakeman, of Connecticut, six hundred and forty acres in the southwest corner of section three, Mr. Beach taking the western and smaller part. This pioneer settler of Ruggles accomplished much towards the rapid settling up of his township, and his memory is gratefully cherished by the people of Ruggles.

Benjamin D. Green was the first blacksmith who settled in Ruggles. He gave up blacksmithing for the carpenters' trade. He was a prominent man in the community, held several important offices, and was a major in the militia.

The first birth was that of Wakeman J. Beach, the son of Daniel Beach, born January 11, 1825.

The first marriage did not take place until the year 1832, when, on the 18th day of June, Mr. James Poag, widower, was united in marriage to Miss Laura C. Smith. The ceremony was performed by Daniel Beach, Esq.

The first death occurred in 1826, in which year Mr. Cyrus Sanders, a single man, and a nephew of Mr. B. Sturtevant, died of bilious fever.

The first saw mill was built by Daniel Beach in 1824, on the Vermillion river, one hundred rods north of Ruggles' Corners. This mill was of great benefit to the early settlers. Mr. Beach built a grist mill also, near the site of the saw mill, in 1831 or '32, to which steam was subsequently attached. The first store in Ruggles was opened by Josiah Botsford at Ruggles' Corners, one and one-half miles west of the center, in about the year 1831. The first post-office was established one-half mile south of the Corners.

Prior to 1826, Ruggles was attached to New London for civil purposes, but at the date named it was detached and organized, the first election occurring January 2d of that year. There were just a dozen residents who participated in this first election, as follows: Perry Durfee, Harvey Sackett, Norman Carter, Truman Bates, Reuben Fox, B. Sturtevant, Jacob Roorback, Abraham Ferris, Justice Barnes, Daniel Beach, Ezra D. Smith, and Aldrich Carver. Mr. E. D. Smith was chosen clerk; H. Sackett treasurer; J. Roorback, D. Beach, and A. Carver, trustees; B. Sturtevant and H. Sackett, overseers of the poor; J. Barnes and A. Ferris, fence viewers; Reuben Fox and Perry Durfee, appraisers of property; N. Carter, constable, and T. Bates, supervisor,—thirteen offices filled with twelve individuals. Mr. Sackett had the honor of filling two positions. Another election was held April 3d, when Mr. Ferris was made treasurer, Mr. Bates constable, and Messrs. Fox and Sturtevant supervisors, and Harvey Sackett justice of the peace. The other offices remained filled as above.

In 1824 a school house was built eighty rods east of the residence of Daniel Beach, and Betsey Sackett taught school there during the summer of that year. The second school was upon the north line of the township, and was taught by Jacob Roorback.

The only village that ever existed in the township was at Ruggles corners, upon the Wooster and Norwalk road. There were several mercantile and mechanical concerns at this point, as well as a tavern and quite a cluster of dwelling houses. The place was sustained by the tanning interests of the Norwalk road, and when the C., C., C. & I. R. R. was established, as it destroyed the wagoning business, the little village soon dwindled away, and eventually entirely disappeared.

The first religious services were held at Harvey Sackett's house soon after the settlement of the township by Lodovicus Robbins. Not long after a Methodist class was formed, of which there remains no record, and in regard to which no authentic information can be obtained.

The first church organization in the township was that of the Congregational in 1827.

NEW LONDON.

This interesting and rapidly growing town is situated seventeen miles from Norwalk, the county-seat.

The first settler of what is now the village of New London was John Corey, who erected the first log cabin. This was in 1816. The Sampson's, the Merri-
fields, the Hendryx's, Kinsley's, Dr. Christopher Bates, W. S. Dewitt, and others.
From 1817 to 1822 New London was called Merrifield Settlement; from 1822 to
1837, Kinsley's Corners; from 1840 to 1853, King's Corners. In 1850 the Cleve-
land, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis railroad commenced to run through
the town, and the place grew rapidly. In the fall of 1853, the village, embracing
about eight hundred acres of land, was incorporated. The first council proceedings
are recorded for December 3, 1853: R. C. Powers, mayor; John Thorn, recorder;
J. Bradley, J. F. Badger, A. Starbird, V. King, and A. D. Kilburn, trustees, or
councilmen; A. A. Powers marshal; J. O. Merrifield, treasurer. In 1851 the vil-
lage suffered from its first serious fire; and again in 1872, November 17th, property
to the value of forty to fifty thousand dollars was destroyed. The village was in-
corporated in 1853. At this date, 1000, New London contains about one thousand
five hundred inhabitants, mostly descendants of New England and New York
families. New London is located on the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and St.
Louis and Northern Ohio railways, forty-seven miles southwest of Cleveland. The
town is progressive, having about two miles of brick paved streets, owns its electric
lighting plant and has a number of good factories. Its postoffice receipts exceed
twelve thousand dollars annually. Fine rural free delivery routes radiate from
this postoffice. The village is surrounded by a good grazing and farming country
where high grade cattle and sheep are bred. A business peculiar to New London
farmers is the breeding of ferrets which are shipped to all parts of the United
States, commanding good prices and enriching those engaged in that business.

MONROEVILLE.

The village of Monroeville was laid out on September 20, 1817. It was then
named Monroe, and continued to be called by that name until the establishment
of a postoffice, when the name was changed to Monroeville. In 1836 an addi-
tion of one hundred and forty-one lots was added. The village was incorpor-
ated in 1868, and the first election was held.

The following sketch of Monroeville was prepared for the Spectator and Mr.
L. O. Simmons has kindly given permission for it to be used in this work:

What is now the beautiful and enterprising village of Monroeville, was an
unimproved waste, inhabited only by the wild beasts of the forests and wander-
ing bands of red men. Lordly trees stood upon the sites of residences of today,
and there was nothing here, *per se*, to create or sustain a town. The Huron river
rippled onward then as now, but no village was reflected in its clear transpar-
ent waters. But a change was fast approaching. Change, which is as inevit-
able as time itself, goes hand in hand with civilization, and is the constant com-
panion of the pioneer.

ORIGIN OF THE TOWN.

In the year 1816, a man by the name of Sowers, with his family, emigrated
from the state of Maryland to this locality. About the same time Seth Brown



MAIN STREET, MONROEVILLE

and Schuyler Van Ranslear came here from the state of New York. The land comprising the present site of the village of Monroeville, was purchased by the above-named gentlemen, with a view to its improvement for agricultural purposes—to make for themselves and families homes. Soon after they were joined by others, among whom was one Richard Burt, who proceeded at once to erect a saw and grist mill, and which were in operation as early as 1816. These mills were located, and comprise the original of the mill of The Heyman Milling Co. of the present day. This was the nucleus of greater things; the starting point, the origin of our now populous village. Messrs. Sowers, Brown, and Van Ranslear caused the survey of the village plat, which was soon occupied, and prominent among whom, and as the first to locate here, were the following: Seth Brown, Schuyler Van Ranslear, Richard Burt, Dr. Cole, a Mr. Fuller, Daniel, John and James Sowers, and John S. Davis. Mr. Van Ranslear opened a small store, and to him belongs the honor of inaugurating mercantile pursuits, and from which insignificant establishment have sprung the many business houses of today. Verily its progeny has been prolific. Buckley Hutchins, another of the early settlers of the place, kept the first tavern, not one of the modern concerns like those of the present day, where the *blase* guest sits down to a dozen courses, but a humble structure in which the fare was of a primitive character, where corn pones and venison formed the staple diet. Mr. Van Ranslear was the first postmaster. The Baptists organized the first church society, and were closely followed by the Presbyterians and Methodists. Monroeville, like all other towns in a new country, was subject to many annoyances and inconveniences; the mail, for instance, put in an appearance quite infrequently, and before the days of stages and railroads, was carried on horseback or on foot from settlement to settlement, and the arrival of the postman in those times was hailed as a gala-day by the inhabitants. As the years roll by there is a gradual increase in the population, and some new features of improvement adds to the importance of the place. For many years there was little to attract or encourage immigration. Situated in the midst of a forest, and surrounded by savages and wild beasts, the settlement of the country was attended with no little peril and risk of life. There were no markets, and the resources for the growth and improvement of the locality were limited in character, and the growth of the new village was extremely slow, and for many years traffic with the Indians constituted a very important item in the business transactions of our merchants. Many amusing scenes and anecdotes might be related of pioneer life, but as it is our purpose to chronicle briefly that of an historical nature, we will leave the romantic to those whose ability, augmented by the experience of early years, is greater than our own. As the surrounding country became more and more developed, there was a corresponding increase in the population of the town, also an expansion of business matters. The building of the railroads in after years marked a new era in the affairs of Monroeville. It not only infused new life in business matters, but was the means of a more rapid development of the surrounding country. It opened up new and hitherto unapproachable markets, and placed us upon the plane of equality with other and older towns, and was in every respect a consummation that had been long and devoutly wished. Better than all, however, was the fact that Monroeville and surrounding country contained within themselves

sustaining force, the soil was of the richest possible character ; it was peopled with a hardy and industrious race of men and women, who had their competence to acquire, and whose daily labor was a labor of love. Every tree that was felled was a step toward prosperity, every acre in cultivation was a guerdon of success. And so these noble men and women toiled on, creating for the generation of today an inheritance time shall not dim. This, then, in rude outline, has been the history of Monroeville. We have not aimed, nor have we time or space to give fragments of minutiae. We must ignore anecdote and incident, those particulars which go to make up the warp and woof of history ; nor are the columns of a newspaper the suitable place for their preservation. Our sphere of action as journalists is vastly different from that of the historian.

MONROEVILLE OF TODAY.

But what is Monroeville of today? we are asked. We answer: a beautiful and enterprising village of about two thousand inhabitants, a place whose appearance has nothing of the speculative or ephemeral—a substantial, well-built town. Located at the junction of the L. S. & M. S., Lake Erie division of the B. & O. R. R. and W. & L. E., the best of facilities for shipping are secured. The Huron river, upon whose border the town so gracefully reposes, is susceptible of improvement, and even now furnishes a motive power for driving machinery of industrial enterprise. The streets are regularly laid out, many of which, with their abundance of shade trees, present a beautiful and attractive appearance. The business streets are lined with substantial two and three story brick blocks, whose appearance will compare favorably with those of any town of like size in the state. A stroll throughout the town discloses little to remind one of the past. Many of the residences are really elegant, and nearly all are attractive. The streets, stores, churches and dwellings are all neat and present an appearance that is quite metropolitan. The humble church of half a century ago must have planted good seed, for as its fruit we see today seven church edifices, mostly of a superior character ; we can only name them, however : Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopal, Evangelical, Reformed and Catholic. The modest district school has grown with the passing years. Its score of scholars, with their cabin for a schoolroom, has increased to many hundreds, and we find today an elegant substantial brick structure, provided with all modern conveniences, and affording advantages for an education that in those early days would have been confined to the wealthy alone. In brief, we present a town attractive in itself, and from its surroundings a place equal to any town in the state for business advantages.

OLD RESIDENTS.

But we have little to remind us of the past. The buildings of that early day are gradually yielding to the growing tooth of Time. Of the first or original settlers none are left, and only a few of those who came a little later remain.

Some of those early pioneers have moved away, while others are quietly sleeping in the grave. Change is written upon everything. Soon nothing but the memory of those early settlers will be left to remind us that they ever existed.

But they will have with themselves the consciousness that they have not lived in vain. Their efforts and actions, coupled with the efforts of those of an earlier generation, have made Monroeville what it is, nor have they any reason to feel ashamed of the achievements of a life time of labor as it stands today a bright jewel in the diadem of the state.

CHICAGO JUNCTION.

The town of Chicago Junction was formed in the spring of 1875, and its location is at the junction of the Chicago Division of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad with the Mansfield-Columbus Division of the same road. It was thought by many that a city would soon grow up in the woods, and there was much to induce such an opinion, for the railroad company erected extensive repair shops and a round-house and employed a large force of men. The company also projected other works, which if they had been accomplished would have necessitated the employment of many more men. But their anticipations were not realized and the town did not grow. The people of the place, as soon as the town began to grow built a school house and a church, to keep in touch with the educational and religious interest of the age.

The following sketch of the town is from the Chicago Times, a newspaper of which the citizens of Chicago Junction is justly proud:

Chicago is not an old town, so to speak. On the first day of January, 1874, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company opened up for traffic a portion of its Chicago extension, then known as the Baltimore, Pittsburg and Chicago Railway, extending westward as far as Deshler. Chicago Junction was established as the eastern terminus of this new division. The station business was transacted in a one-story frame building about fifteen by twenty-five feet, which comprised freight, ticket, telegraph offices, passenger depot, baggage and freight rooms. Railway employes boarded in Centerton and with farmers in the neighborhood.

On the 4th day of July following, the first load of stone for the first building in Chicago Junction was hauled for the hotel and grocery of S. L. Bowlby, and this little building—afterward consumed by fire—the pioneer establishment of the town was opened to the public September 7, 1874.

In December, 1874, the railroad was completed to the Windy City, and about the same month temporary shops were erected consisting of an engine house and two small buildings to be used as blacksmith and machine shops, all frame buildings, and giving employment to sixty men. Owing to the severe winter of 1874-5 there was very little work done upon the many new business houses and dwellings that were in course of erection. Early in the year 1875 the railroad company laid the foundation for the large brick depot and hotel, shown elsewhere in this edition of the Times, and same was opened to the public in September following.

During the summer of 1875 work was commenced on the foundation of the permanent shops of the railroad company and in April, 1876, the machinery and tools were moved into the new buildings.

The opening of the Chicago extension, building of the shops, depot, etc., created a great boom in property. Town lots were laid out in all directions and within a year many properties had increased in value three-fold and sold at fabulous prices.

Business had sprung up in various places and everything pointed to a prosperous future. All went well until December 8, 1877, when nearly one-half of the town was consumed by fire. The fire originated in what was known as Mason's news and book store on Front street and in less than two hours fifteen business houses and a large number of dwellings, were reduced to ashes, and the business interests received a severe blow. In the spring of the following year the livery stable of A. J. Crawford was burned by incendiary and in the fall following the saloon of Messrs. Hoffman and Trimble and the shoe store of William Simmermacher were destroyed by fire, and following soon after was the burning of the Ohms hotel and saloon. Thus in the period of one year one-half the business portion of the thriving village was destroyed by fire, leaving many of the victims bankrupt. New buildings of a more substantial nature were erected and all went well until the winter of 1881-2 at which time an epidemic of smallpox was introduced by Lloyd Dillon, a passenger brakeman, who had contracted the disease in Chicago, Illinois, and which resulted in seventeen cases, six of which proved fatal. Many of the inhabitants left town during this epidemic and farmers gave the place a wide berth for months afterwards. Thus it will be seen that the town's pioneer days were not void of trouble and disaster.

The town was incorporated in the fall of 1882, by electing Samuel Snyder, mayor; N. B. Parker, clerk; W. B. Keefer, treasurer; and A. R. Nichols, Otis Sykes, F. J. Gunther, George H. Miller, Elias Mason and William Carpenter, councilmen. All of these men except two, Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Mason are alive to-day, a fact worthy of note. Ex-mayor Snyder is now living at Sunbury, Pennsylvania. At the time of incorporation the town had a population of about eight hundred.

During the years intervening between 1882 and 1888 nothing of importance transpired to change the monotony of life in a country town. People were waiting for the completion of the Akron extension of the Baltimore & Ohio, which occurred in 1900. Following the opening of this division the town took on new life and its growth up to this time has been phenomenal. No town in this section has enjoyed a more rapid and substantial growth.

During the last eight years the town has been provided with all the modern comforts enjoyed by people of the larger cities. The telephone was introduced in 1898, waterworks installed in March 1899, electric lights December 1900, paved streets 1900, natural gas for fuel and lights in 1903, additional street paving in 1904 and electric railroad in 1905. During the last ten years all the principal streets have been placed to a permanent grade and today these streets are lined with beautiful shade trees, uniform stone walks, and on every lot you will find well kept homes.

This briefly tells the history of Chicago Junction—a town with a future.

That Chicago is one of the most enterprising towns in the state of Ohio goes without saying. Her people are patriotic to a degree not excelled by any other municipality in this section, and the strides which the town has made are such as to be a source of gratification to every man in the city who has the interest of his home town at heart.

It is not very many years ago that Chicago was a mere straggling hamlet, making no pretensions to anything above the ordinary small village. Its population

did not consist of more than a few hundreds of people and the conditions were crude at best with not a very inviting future to those desiring to make this place their permanent abode.

Conditions, however, have materially changed these things, so that today the stranger sees a town built in a solid and substantial manner—good buildings and fine streets with every modern convenience that will insure to the happiness of those who call it home. The residences are such as to do honor to any community and the entire town is such today as to reflect credit on those who have been instrumental in building it up from its former insignificant position.

What the city needs more than anything else is factories. Efforts along the line of securing labor employing institutions should be made in a concerted and effective manner. And we believe that should our people agitate this matter sufficiently there would be no question as to the success attending the efforts of those most concerned.

Our location is such as to make this town a good manufacturing point—our railway facilities are such as to warrant the belief that manufacturers would find every convenience at their doors—and the country surrounding the town is such as to find no superior within the confines of the great state of Ohio. Is it not therefore reasonable to believe that with energy and activity great things may be hoped for and done along the line of securing manufacturing concerns which means so much to the present and the future welfare of any community which truly hopes to become more than ordinary.

In the matter of churches Chicago has every leading denomination represented, Methodist, Catholic, United Brethren, Presbyterian, Lutheran and Free Methodist. The pulpits are filled by men well qualified to discharge their duties and these ministers have doubtless done much good to bring the moral tone of the community up to a high standard.

The public schools of the town are a credit to the corporation and reflect nothing but praise on our people and those who administer the affairs of our educational institutions. The teachers are all men and women with a high purpose—well prepared to discharge the functions of their offices, and the results are seen in the efficiency and capacity of the scholars who are yearly matriculated.

Schools, and particularly good schools, should have every encouragement to the end that the community as a whole may be better for the results obtained.

The population of Chicago is at least four thousand. Its growth has been steady for the past ten years and it is safe to say that we have now at least the above number of people within the corporate limits of the town.

The city government has always been good. City officials have spent their time without recompense in furthering the cause of Chicago's growth, so that it is fair to assume that the conditions which have prevailed in the past will continue in the future.

No town of a like population has better streets than has this city. A large part of the city is already paved and more is under contemplation. This has given the town a good reputation among those who visit the place, and it certainly adds to the prestige of the place to be fully abreast of the times in every way.

The banking institutions of this city are ample for the accommodation of the public. The banks of this town have always been conservatively managed and

have enjoyed a high degree of prosperity. The deposits at the several institutions are such as to show that this section has enjoyed a long season of prosperity which shows no sign of abatement.

The railroad interests of Chicago are most important to the healthy expansion of the town. Indeed the town was created by the B. & O. system and the present prosperity of the place is largely owing to the vast interests of this company, located at this point.

The B. & O. has made this town the junction point for its lines from Chicago, Illinois, Pittsburg, Baltimore and Columbus and as a consequence the shops, round house, division terminal and the like are located in this city.

Each year the business of the company becomes heavier and all of these facts have a direct bearing on the prosperity of the town.

The S. N. & M. traction company completed their tracks into this city, the line running from Sandusky on the north to Mansfield on the south. This line opens up a lot of good country which will be tributary to Chicago and doubtless will do not a little to stimulate trade. It also gives the town another outlet for its passenger traffic, express and freight and will result in the long run in good to the community as a whole. Promoters are now working on plans for an electric line to Bucyrus and if their ideas become a reality it means much to Chicago's future.

Traction lines are a modern necessity, their construction is being rapidly pushed throughout the country and it behooves any community to get as many of them as possible.

Another important branch of industry in this section is celery growing. There is in this vicinity vast sections of muck land and much of this in late years has been drained and planted in celery.

The work of reclamation is steadily going forward and the celery industry is becoming a business of great magnitude.

The development of the three thousand acres of marsh land by Pittsburg capitalists will add materially to the growth of Chicago.

Chicago has a bright future and our business men and capitalists should be on the alert and see that every good move is given encouragement.

The public utilities of Chicago are in line with her other possessions and rank well up with the best wherever found. We have a fine system of water works, a well equipped fire department, sewers, electric lights, natural gas for light and heat, telephone and telegraph service, ample hotel accommodations and every accessory that will conduce to the happiness and the well being of society.

In the matter of papers the community is well served by the Times which numbers among its constituency fifteen hundred families in this city and adjoining country. The Times aims to serve the people in every worthy way—to be abreast of the times constantly and give its readers the benefit of its best efforts for the upbuilding of the town.

The agricultural resources of the country adjacent to Chicago is such as to make of the community a most prosperous region. No better land can be found in the state of Ohio than we have here, and our farmers are such as to develop the sections to its fullest. The farming community is well-to-do, a fact which is evidenced by the large deposits—all indicating that they have had and are having most prosperous seasons. Taking the town as a whole and the environments

of the place and a better location cannot be found for either residence or factory sites. We confidently believe that the future holds in store for us better things than the past has given us, and to this end let every citizen of this place strive, in order that our ambitions may be realized.

From the beginning of the formation of the town, the residents thereof sent their children to the Sykes district and elsewhere to school until there became so many of them, there were not sufficient accommodations for them; then Motson's hall was rented and also the old buildings now occupied by Mr. Heilman as a residence. In 1880 the township board of New Haven erected two school houses for the better accommodation of the pupils. One on the east side of the B. & O. in which the east side school is now taught, and another on the site of the present brick building. These answered till 1883, when the voters of the two districts and that part of Richmond township within the corporate limits of the village, decided by a majority vote to organize themselves into a separate village school district. A school board was elected at the spring election of 1883, and they began as a separate and distinct district April 16th of the same year. Several attempts were made to annex more territory to the district, but they all failed until the spring of 1891, when a commission was appointed by the probate judge, which held a meeting, and on July 7, 1891, the territory petitioned to be added to the district was annexed with several additional tracts. Immediately after the district had been organized in 1883, the school board proceeded to erect another frame building near to the one before mentioned on the site of the present brick building. It was completed, and school opened in the fall with three teachers. Two years after it was found necessary to have another teacher, and a room was provided in the old Hackett building on Main street. The town grew rapidly, and in 1886 the necessity of a large central brick building was agitated. March 8, 1887, on motion of C. B. Tudor, the board decided unanimously to submit to the voters of the district a proposition to issue bonds to the amount of thirteen thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting a two-story brick, eight room building. The proposition was carried at the April election of the same year.

At their next meeting and subsequent meetings the board tried to select a site, but were a tie on every ballot. They submitted the location to the voters of the district, and at a special election, May 31, 1887, they selected the present site. Bonds were issued to the before mentioned amount and sold June 10th, the same year to Spitzer & Company of Toledo, for the sum of thirteen thousand one hundred and eighty-one dollars.

Work was pushed forward and the building enclosed before holidays. It was completed the following summer, and schools opened in it September 1888. On April 19, 1888, the board sold three thousand dollars additional bonds by special act of the legislature for the purpose of seating the house in part, paying architect, purchasing heating apparatus, paying for site, and other necessary expenses.

Without manufactures no country can be truly great and prosperous. Without agriculture no country may hope to build up for itself any considerable manufacturing interests. Without both of these we cannot expect the arts, the sciences and literature to progress. It is therefore essential that both of these factors enter in a country's wealth—they are interdependent on each other; each

gives and receives sustenance from the other, and imparts its beneficent influence in a hundred ways that educate, enlighten and tend to the general happiness and prosperity of the people. Manufacturers create an urban population—they set the life blood of business flowing through all the arteries of trade and commerce. They dissipate provincialism, produce a desire for the arts, create a taste for higher education, give a literature to its people and act as the great conservers of the strength and independence of a nation.

Agriculture alone is like a ship without a rudder. It is always subject to the caprices and whims of those who purchase farm products, and has no absolute autonomy of its own. Where the nation has both manufacturers and agriculture, and exports the products of both industries, besides supplying its own demands, it becomes a nation which stands alone; that recognizes no master save its own people and whose prosperity and progress attain the height of human achievement in everything possible through human endeavor.

The same things are true of a city or town in a lesser degree as they are of nations—hence how important it is that a city or town strive to create a manufacturing center in its midst whose mills and shops draw tribute from every clime and from every people.

It effects a conquest which all the wars of the ages have failed to accomplish, it is the one mighty lever that has made easy accomplishment our present magnificent civilization.

How necessary it is then for the people of a town or a city to work in harmony and unison for their mutual good. There should be but one spirit animating the people when any question resolves itself into one affecting the prosperity of the community in which they live. They should lay aside all petty jealousies of disposition in the endeavor to secure new factories, which means greater wealth, greater happiness and greater progress toward the goal of earthly attainment.

Chicago as a city is an ideal place for a large manufacturing center. There is absolutely no reason why it should not become such, providing its people show a disposition equal to that displayed by some of its neighbors. Secure factories and you secure more wealth, more everything that is reckoned in the sum and substance of human happiness.

The Hotel Sheidley is a modern hotel property in every way and possesses all the conveniences which a first-class hostelry should have.

The Deer Lick Mineral Springs, located right on the edge of this town, are one of the greatest future assets which this town possesses. These springs are located in one of the most beautiful sections of woodland to be imagined, the springs proper being in a basin surrounded with sloping hillsides and fine timberland.

Chicago Junction has had marked improvements within the past few years. It has two school buildings, six churches, two dry goods stores, seven groceries, three drug stores, four physicians, two banks, four or five good hotels, three hardware stores, two furniture stores, three millinery stores and a number of manufacturing plants.

The Baltimore & Ohio railroad company has erected a large, attractive and commodious Y. M. C. A. building, of which the citizens are justly proud. The



CELERY FIELD, CHICAGO, OHIO

same company has also recently erected a large round-house and additional shops, being one of the largest round-houses and most complete shops of the kind in the state, at a very large expense, and are still contemplating further improvement at an early date.

A large tract of land of over three thousand acres, about two miles south of Chicago Junction, which was formerly known as the "marshes," has been reclaimed by drainage and is now under cultivation, mostly in celery, but other garden products are also grown in large quantities. The citizens look forward hopefully to the celery product as an important adjunct to the business interests of the place.

To Mr. L. E. Simmons, the editor of the Times, and to Dr. A. R. Lydy our thanks are due for the information and courtesies received during a visit made to their town in the interest of this work.

There is no field in this section of the state which possesses greater possibilities, and for which the future holds in store such rich promise as the marsh lands southwest of this town. It has only been a few years since that this land was brought prominently before the public by Mr. H. C. Johnson, who acquired a considerable tract and began to experiment in its development. The process was naturally tedious, because the old timers throughout the region regarded the property as practically worthless and unfit for cultivation. Mr. Johnson in visiting the various sections of the country where celery, onions, etc., were grown saw that the land in the region, known as the marsh, possessed features which made it superior to any land under cultivation for the production of celery and kindred vegetation. He began to acquire a large section of the property and in a small way opened up several small sections, planting celery and onions. The results obtained were such as to justify every hope entertained of the property in the first place, as the product was such as to make enormous returns from the labor given to cultivation of the land. By dint of strenuous exertions Mr. Johnson succeeded in interesting a number of Hollanders from Kalamazoo, Michigan, to come here and the success of these people was such as to soon attract others to the field. The result is shown today in a good sized village near the borders of the marsh containing one of the thriftiest and most prosperous people to be found within the state of Ohio. Where before their advent nothing but a rank growth of vegetation existed, there is now magnificent tracts of celery land under cultivation. While but a very small portion of the land is yet under cultivation, yet the work done thus far gives promise that at no very distant date every acre of this territory will be taken up and utilized to its greatest extent.

Large purchases by Pittsburg capitalists have been made in this tract involving a heavy expenditure of cash. This fact along with the work already accomplished as just noted with the great success of there working the land combine to place these lands in the very front. Of the original holdings of Mr. Johnson amounting to twelve hundred acres, two hundred and fifty to three hundred acres are under cultivation and of this last there are one hundred acres in celery, onions, etc.

The number of acres planted by each gardener averages about six, and it will surprise the average reader to know that on each acre planted the average returns have been greater than three hundred dollars. This year, the writer inter-

viewed a number of the gardeners as to the income from their tracts. One gentleman stated that his returns had been very close to five hundred dollars per acre from a part of his field. Another gentleman with eight acres stated that his gross receipts would be very close to three thousand dollars. W. B. Keefer has seven and a half acres. This he has put out for him, pays all the expenses incident to the crop, and his gross receipts for the past three years have averaged two thousand, five hundred dollars for the time stated per year. His profits during this time have averaged very close to eight hundred dollars per year for the seven and a half acres, and this without any labor or exertion on his part. Where in all the world is it possible to make such profits, and where such enormous returns are possible, the means leading to them are sure to be early exhausted. It is only necessary to say in this connection that these celery lands about Kalamazoo are selling today for three hundred dollars per acre, while the land in this vicinity can be bought at prices which are ridiculous in comparison. Another point to be looked at is the fact that these lands are one day nearer the big eastern markets than the Kalamazoo territory, and have all about them a large chain of fine cities, making one of the best markets in the world in which to dispose of the product. The soil here is richer, is of a more spongy nature, never overflows, and in many other ways has the advantage of the Michigan fields, all of which means much to the man who buys this property and its value in ten years time.

Nearly all those who have bought land of Mr. Johnson came here with very little means. Today their homes are such as to be a credit to any community, and they have within them such evidence of thrift as would reflect creditably on any old community. One of the leading bankers of this town told the writer that one of the residents of the marsh was in debt this spring. He had just made some extensive improvements and had but lately come here. He was compelled to make a small loan and owed for material at several places. This season's crop of celery puts him entirely out of debt and he has up to date a balance of nine hundred dollars and one-half of his celery still to harvest. Where, under heaven's dome, is it possible to do better, and be in the midst of one of the most populous sections of the greatest states in the union.

For the sake of getting a more intelligent conception of this large section we append herewith some figures which will show the possibilities of the section.

On the area already under cultivation, consisting of one hundred acres, more or less, the returns are now over three thousand dollars per annum. One man and his family can care for about six acres of land and the average income will amount to not less than three hundred dollars per acre, all depending on the care given the soil and the industry and intelligence of the man who works it.

This tract of land with an annual product of three hundred dollars per acre means a large revenue for this community than could be expected from manufacturing enterprises. A family to every six acres means an added population of one thousand farmers with their families or a total population of between six and seven thousand. And this estimate is conservative, not inflated and can be verified by actual results at a score of different farms in the marsh.

Two crops of celery are harvested every year, as high as seven hundred bushels of onions and three hundred bushels of potatoes have been raised to the

acre. Such productiveness is beyond the average man and usually he will not believe it until the facts are made indubitable. This can be easily demonstrated by a visit to the fields under cultivation, and every facility will be given to make verification easy.

The depth of the soil on these lands run from eight to twelve feet; it is splendidly drained and an abundance of splendid water is easily obtained. They are not situated in remote parts but are adjacent to lines of railway which skirt the property on the northeast and south. Chicago, Ohio, is within two miles of the property, so that every facility is at hand to make life pleasant and the profits the highest possible.

When Mr. Johnson bought this property he was regarded as foolish, but developments have shown the wisdom of his purchase and the immeasurable good which it will ultimately do this town.

Another feature about this property is the fact that it is not necessary to go to the wilds of Oklahoma or some other equally remote section in order to get a farm at a small price—a farm not of hundreds of acres but one which will produce more wealth to the acre than any land in the United States devoted to staple crops. You are within the limits of civilization; you have the greatest market in the world at your doors and for a few hundred dollars it is possible for you to buy sufficient land to make you an income which you could not hope to get from hundreds of acres of ordinary farm lands. These are considerations worthy of your careful thought. A few years and the chance of a life time will be gone, for it will not be many years until this property will be a veritable garden spot entirely off the market, or held at such figures as to make its purchase prohibitive by the man of small means.

NORWALK.

Norwalk, the county seat of Huron county, takes its name from Huron, Connecticut. The inhabitants of that town having suffered great loss by the British, burning and destroying property in that town, in the Revolutionary war, were in part compensated for their loss by lands in Ohio, called the Firelands, and organized as Huron county in 1818, containing half a million of acres. Their loss was estimated at eighty-six thousand, two hundred and ninety-six dollars.

Norwalk is a beautiful city, fifty-six miles west of Cleveland, about ninety-five miles north of Columbus, and fifty-seven miles east of Toledo. One of the chief attractions of Norwalk is its principal avenue, Main street, which is two miles in length and is beautifully shaded by rows of maple trees. The center is the business portion, with court house, school buildings and churches. Much taste is evinced in the private residences and churches, and in adorning the ground around them with shrubbery and flowers. As a whole the city is one of the most beautiful and attractive in Ohio.

The town is often called "Maple City," on account of the beautiful maple trees that line the streets. The town is an important station on the Michigan Southern and the Wheeling & Lake Erie railroads. It also has a number of electric railroads as given elsewhere.

Platt Benedict was the founder of the town. He was from Danbury, Connecticut. His death occurred October 25, 1866, at the age of ninety-one years, seven months and seven days.

He was four years old when the British red-coats came to his native town to do mischief, having burned Norwalk, Connecticut on their way. Perhaps it was this incident that indirectly paved the way to his founding an Ohio Norwalk. When he came out here in 1817, he was seven weeks on the journey coming out, with his family and household goods, the latter stowed away in a wagon drawn by oxen.

About a mile west of the village were some ancient fortifications. The town is surrounded by rich farming lands, has a fine commercial trade, and considerable manufacturing interests.

The site of Norwalk was first visited with a view to founding a town, by Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, Platt Benedict, and one or two others, in October, 1815. The place was then in the wilderness, and there were but a few settlers in the county. The examination being satisfactory, the town plat was laid out in the spring following, by Almon Ruggles, and lots offered for sale at from sixty to one hundred dollars each. In the fall of 1817, Platt Benedict built a log house with the intention of removing his family there, but in his absence, it was destroyed by fire. He reconstructed his dwelling shortly afterwards, and thus the founding of the village was commenced. In the May following Norwalk was made the county seat, and the public buildings subsequently erected. The year after a census was taken and the population had reached one hundred and nine. In the first few years of the settlement church organizations were formed, the Methodist being the first, a class being formed in 1820. In 1821, the Episcopal church was instituted. From that time to the present the town has grown with the progressive increase of the county.

As Norwalk is so thoroughly sketched in the Centennial write-up, further notice here is unnecessary.

EARLY HISTORY OF BELLEVUE AND ITS PROGRESS.

Bellevue is located on the north and south line between the counties of Huron and Sandusky, being on the west line of the Connecticut Western Reserve, one hundred and twenty miles west of the east line of the state of Ohio, and one hundred and two miles east of its western boundary, and is twelve miles south of Sandusky Bay. It is on the line of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad, forty-five miles east of Toledo and sixty-seven miles west of Cleveland.

Immediately eastward lie the prairies, and, adjacent, on the west are what was in early times called the "Oak Openings," and the vicinity on all sides is first class farming land of hardly surpassed fertility and beauty.

The limestone formation—Silurian period—crops out a little east of town, and its comb on edge, of varying width from two to four miles, extends in a line nearly north and south from near Sandusky Bay, some fifteen miles southward. The limestone is amply covered by the "drift" adapting the region to farming uses, but the rock is very much fractured and tilted, forming innumerable crevices and caves, and so thick is the formation that these caves and crevices

form usually an abundant under drainage to the said limestone region and there are no streams of any considerable length on the surface. At different places these caverns can be entered by passages leading down to the great reservoir of waters below. This is what is consequently called the "sink-hole" region, and is beyond question the source of the splendid springs of unfailing and abundant water power to the mills of Gold Creek and Venice and the village of Bellevue whenever the times comes, may, by means of the proper machinery, easily procure from this great natural reservoir an abundant supply of clear, cold water.

The titles to land in the Huron county portion of the village have an interesting history, going back to the charter of Charles the II., king of Great Britain, in A. D. 1662, known as the Connecticut charter, and involving also interesting events in the Revolutionary war, and subsequent accounts of congress and of the state of Connecticut; but we have not space to pursue the subject.

Huron county was created by the act of February 7, 1807, and included all the "Firelands," viz., five hundred thousand acres off the west end of the Western Reserve, and was to be organized when the legislature should think proper, but till then, was to remain as it then was, attached to Portage and Geauga counties for judicial purposes. The War of 1812, and other causes deferred the organization of Huron county, until the 31st of January, 1815.

The territory now embraced in Lyme and Groton townships was first organized as the township of Wheatsborough, being named after Mr. Wheat, who owned a large tract in what is now Groton. In A. D. 1820, Lyme township was organized, embracing its present territory and also a strip one mile wide next north thereof now a part of Groton. In 1840, its limits were fixed as they now are. Sandusky county was part of an old Indian territory, and was organized April 1, 1820.

EARLIEST SETTLERS.

John Baker and his son, Hiram, Mark Hopkins, Elnathan George, Return Burlinson, Charles F. Drake, James and John Kinney, Henry Williard, Thomas G. Amsden, Frederick Chapman, Dr. Amos Amsden, N. Chapman and Dr. L. G. Harkness are among the first settlers in the vicinity and of the above named pioneers only three are still living, namely, Hiram Baker, Thomas G. Amsden and Dr. L. G. Harkness.

FIRST SETTLERS WHO BUILT LOG CABINS IN WHAT IS NOW BELLEVUE.

The first settler within the present limits of Bellevue was Mark Hopkins, of Genesee county, New York, who with his family located in the fall of 1815, where Peter Bates now lives and built the first log cabin.

In February, 1815, John Baker, from Cortland county, New York, located some two and one-half miles northeast from this place.

The next settler was Elnathan George, who came with his family in the spring of 1816, from Genesee county, New York. He purchased one acre of land of Gurdon Williams, for which he gave him a cow, and built the second

log house and fixed his home on the lot where the Tremont block still stands. The next year he put up an addition to his dwelling, making it a "double-log-house," and opened a tavern. The settlements in this region were yet very sparse, but the main line of travel between the east and west was the Strong's Ridge road to this point.

Return Burlinson next came and fixed his home, on what is now known as the Herl property, on the Sandusky county side in A. D. 1817, and started a blacksmith shop. He at first bought two acres and afterwards bought eleven one-hundredths of an acre more at the southeast corner of the same and built the third log house thereon, and which stood partly in what is now Main street, a little westward from the southwest corner of the present Exchange hotel and nearly opposite the head of Kilbourne street. A year or two after Mr. John Kinney completed a log house, near D. Moore's present blacksmith shop, making the fourth habitation of this kind. He also followed blacksmithing.

Charles F. Drake, in 1822 purchased of the United States "fractional-eighty," being the east one-half of southeast quarter of section twenty-five in York township, embracing most of the present village on the Sandusky side, and about the same time Captain Zadoc Strong "entered" for Dr. James Strong the eighty acres next west.

In the division of the Firelands among the "sufferers" that part next to Bellevue fell to the Latimers, or they became the assignees of the same, and it was known as the "Latimer tract." Gurdon Williams purchased of the Latimers in 1816, and Elnathan George bought of Williams. Elnathan George sold his house to Charles F. Drake, Drake to James Kinney, brother to John, Kinney to Hiram Baker, who remodeled it into a frame building in 1831. Baker then transferred it to Mrs. Parmelee, Mrs. Parmelee to Lowell Chandler, who erected the Tremont house in 1836. It passed through several hands and was then again purchased by Lowell Chandler. Shortly after, Mr. J. Egle purchased it and is still its proprietor. The building was occupied as a hotel but a few years, when Mr. Chandler remodeled it into stores, which are now occupied by W. R. West and J. L. Reis.

THE FIRST FRAME BUILDING.

The first frame building on the Sandusky county side, was erected by Chapman & Amsden, on the ground where the Bellevue bank now stands, and was used by them as a store, T. G. Amsden using the upper portion of this building as a dwelling house. The next frame building on the same side was a dwelling house built by N. Chapman, about 1829, in the rear of Goodson & Hubbard's drug store. When the present block was erected this building was moved to the corner of Castalia and North streets. The third frame house Mr. Return Burlinson erected on the lot now owned by Mrs. Herl, where it still stands. Hiram Baker built the first frame building on the Huron county side, in the year 1831, on the land on which the Tremont block is situated. This building was burned shortly after. He immediately built another frame house on the same spot, which was occupied by himself and Mr. D. H. Fitch. That building now comprises the east part of the long building east of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1834, Mr. Fitch built another frame building.

THE FIRST ROAD THROUGH BELLEVUE.

In the fall of 1815, when Mr. Baker came here, there were scarcely any public roads, although Indian trails were very thick. He and his son, Hiram, cut a road through the woods from Russel's Corners to Strong's Ridge, where they lived, to the stone quarries, about one mile west of town, and in the spring of 1817 Hiram Baker was one of the party who commenced the road through to Burd's, near Clyde, at which place, and also at Cook's Corners, they put up guide boards, directing travelers to and from Lower Sandusky through Strong's settlement, as it had usually gone from Cook's Corners to Pipe creek and up the North Ridge. At this time there was not a settler between here and Fremont, or Lower Sandusky, as it was then called.

FIRST STORES.

Thomas G. Amsden, who came into this country in December, 1819, in company with Nathaniel and Frederick Chapman, has the honor of starting the first store, which was opened in November, 1823, in a good sized log building. When he first came into the country, he was engaged in traffic with the Indians and French.

FIRST HOTELS.

It was very essential for the weary traveler to have some place to rest and refresh himself, and to provide for this, Mr. Elnathan George threw open the doors of his log "mansion" and invited all who were in need of refreshments for the "inner man," to make themselves at home under his roof. This was done somewhere about 1816, from which time the first hotel takes its date. In 1829 the Exchange was built and opened by Chapman & Harkness.

FIRST DEATH, BIRTH AND MARRIAGE, SERMON AND CHURCH.

In the spring of 1817, Mrs. Mark Hopkins was bitten by a massauger, causing her death very shortly after. A few hours before her death she gave birth to a daughter—Jeannette Hopkins. The child grew up to womanhood here. Said birth and death were the first in Bellevue.

The first marriage was that of Israel Markham to Louise Leonard, in 1818, at a house on the lot recently owned and occupied by H. M. Sinclair as his residence.

The first sermon was by Rev. Lot B. Sullivan, in 1818 or 1819, at the house of Elnathan George.

The first meeting house was on the lot where the Congregational church now stands, and was built about A. D. 1837.

FIRST SCHOOL.

The first school was opened about the year 1830, at which date the first school house was built, or rather the log building formerly used by Mr. Kinney as a blacksmith shop, was remodeled. It stood in the angle of intersection of Monroe and West streets.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The first manufacturing establishment was a blacksmith shop, owned by Return Burlinson. Next was the shoe shop of H. Baker. After this Nathan Colwell built a wagon shop. His brother soon followed him and made wagons in a log building a few rods east of the Methodist Episcopal church. A saw mill was next erected by Chapman & Amsden, near the distillery. A postoffice was established here in 1830, with Frederic Chapman as postmaster and went by the name of "York Cross Roads." In 1831, Chapman & Amsden put in operation a tannery. The first cabinet shop was opened by David and Benjamin Moore, who for some time were the only furniture dealers in Bellevue. The first practicing physicians were Drs. Harkness and Lathrop, and a Mr. Kent opened the first law office.

The first mill in Lyme township, was built in 1818, by John Baker, and was used only to grind corn. Its construction was as follows: In the first place he took a large white oak stump, perfectly sound, and built a fire on the top or rim of the stump, with chips, etc. This he kept burning directed in such a manner as to form a hole, mortar like, which would hold about one-half bushel of corn. He then set up a crotch a short distance from it which supported a spring pole. To the end of the hole he attached a pestle, with a pin through the handle. About three quarts of corn was put in the mortar at a time, and the churn-like operation of grinding would commence. People used to come miles to grind corn enough to keep them alive until such times as they could get to Cold creek. The finest of the ground corn was used for cake, and the coarsest for mush.

FIRST ELECTION IN LYME TOWNSHIP.

The first election in Lyme township was held in a log school house, on the Ridge in April, 1820. The following were the officers elected: James Hamilton and George Sheffield, justices of the peace; Nathan Strong, Gurdon Williams and Chester Hamilton, trustees; Joseph and Zadoc Strong, overseers of the poor; J. Strong and J. Hamilton, fence viewers; Gurdon Williams, Lester G. Williams and E. Hamilton, appraisers of personal property; G. Williams and C. Hamilton, constables; Frances Strong, treasurer, and George Sheffield, clerk.

"RATTLESNAKE DEN OR CAVE."

This cave, situated near the west border of Lyme township, was discovered by Gurdon Woodward, in 1817. While hunting one day he saw a wild cat run into a hole, and on removing a stone, discovered the cave. "It is one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet in depth. At that part the clear water of the subterranean stream, or river, runs north. The cave appears to be formed, or part at least, by the washing away of the rocks or stones underneath, and the falling down of them from above. This process going on from year to year, will remove a large amount of stone. The descent into the cave is sometimes steep and difficult, and in other places it is a greatly inclined plane. The opening is not in one room, but diversified. It extends north and south with the

OLD EPISCOPAL
CHURCH



NEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION



OLD EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AND BENEDICT CHAPEL

course of the water a considerable distance. Its width is from one to four feet. In former times, hundreds of rattlesnakes made this their den."

THE FIRST PAPER.

Bellevue's first paper was started in 1851, by G. W. Hopkins, in a small room in the second story of the Howard Mansion, on Monroe street. It lived only three or four months. It was a five column sheet, and bore the title of Bellevue Gazette, and Huron, Seneca, Erie and Sandusky Advertiser. Its motto was "Open to all." The next attempt to establish a paper was made by a Mr. Chapman, about thirteen years ago, which also proved a failure. His paper was called the Bellevue Independent. In '67, E. P. Brown started the Bellevue Gazette, which has been prospering ever since, and is now one of the ablest conducted local journals in the United States.

THOROUGHFARES.

By a treaty between the United States and the Indians, the latter among other stipulations, ceded to the former the right of way for a road one hundred and twenty feet wide from the "west" line of the Western Reserve, to the foot of the lower rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, also the land to the extent of one mile on each side of said roadway. The United States afterwards ceded the same to the state of Ohio for the same purpose. In 1824 said road was laid out and established on its present line, making its eastern terminus here in connection with the "Strong's Ridge" road, and its construction immediately commenced. This was the great starting point towards making a village here. From Thomas G. Amsden the place was called "Amsden's Corners," and when the principal roads were established here, it was called "York Cross Roads." The last name was the one by which it was known abroad and received in the transmission of letters and goods. The first postoffice here was called "York Cross Roads."

The Kilbourne road through the influence of Colonel Kilbourne and principally under his management was laid out and established about 1830, from Sandusky City to Upper Sandusky, running in a right line some sixteen or seventeen miles from Sandusky City to near the line between Sandusky and Seneca counties, where was a slight change in its direction to Melmore, etc. It crossed the west line of the Firelands just ten miles from Sandusky, and passed into Sandusky county, going about two miles west of Amsden's Corners, and near the present residence of Amos Carver, and thence on, as aforesaid. Frederick Chapman and others at once took measures to change its location, and in 1832 procured a change, so that, starting at a point in its original line about eight miles southwest, it was laid directly to York Cross Roads, and in approaching the place, the chimney of the "Stone House," (now Exchange hotel,) was an object of direction of its central line. Between Sandusky City and said point of deviation to this place, the "Kilbourne" was never opened on its first line. Said change in its direction bringing its terminus here gave the "Corners" an-

other lift. Soon after a road was laid out hence to Sandusky City, on a route near Parkertown, and corresponding very nearly with the subsequent line of the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad. But this was reviewed and changed, resulting in the establishment of the present road to Cold Creek or Castalia.

The old Strong's Ridge road, or more properly "trail," at first ran along the high ground south of Alfred Stebbins', to the sawmill, near the present site of Woodward's distillery, and thence to where Main street now crosses the county line. This accounts for the awkward angle at which Monroe street comes to the center. The Strong's Ridge road was afterwards straightened upon its present line and thus we see how it is that there is no known line in the village which conforms to any point of the compass known to the science of navigation. Up to this date the town had grown up "by guess."

WHEN BELLEVUE WAS SURVEYED AND LAID OUT.

In the year 1835, the land on the Huron county side consisting of fifty acres, owned by Gurdon Williams, was purchased by F. Chapman, James Hollister, Josiah Hollister, Thomas G. Amsden, L. G. Harkness and Pickett Latimer, and during that year was surveyed and laid out into village lots by David Camp. The lots varied in size and price, fifty dollars being the average price for a quarter acre lot. In 1839 Chapman & Amsden, who at that time owned a large quantity of land west of the county line, had it also surveyed and laid out. These lots were somewhat larger. In order to induce people to locate here, they put their prices at the lowest figures possible, giving long time, at the same time taking great care never to sell to parties who wished to buy the land to speculate on, their principal object being to build up a village.

MAD RIVER AND LAKE ERIE RAILROAD.

The Mad River & Lake Erie railroad, was completed from Sandusky City to this place in 1839. James H. Bell, a civil engineer in the employ of said railroad company, was authorized to name the station here. He called it Bellevue, as at once suggestive of his own name, and his idea of the appearance of the place. Said railroad was extended to Republic and Tiffin, in 1841, and soon after reached its connection with the Little Miami railroad at Springfield. The line of the Mad River & Lake Erie railroad was changed between Tiffin and Sandusky, and laid by way of Greenspring, Clyde and Castalia, in 1855, and the track upon the Bellevue route taken up.

INCORPORATION OF BELLEVUE.

The town of Bellevue was incorporated by the act of the legislature, passed January 25, 1851, and its charter limits were about a mile from east to west along Main street, and extending about one-quarter of a mile on either side of the same, embracing nearly equal portions of Huron and Sandusky counties. A government was organized February 24, 1851, with the following officers: mayor, Abraham Leiter; recorder, Samuel Z. Culver; trustees, Eliphalet D.

Follett, Benjamin F. McKim, David Armstrong, Joseph M. Lawrence and Thomas G. Amsden.

The Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland railroad was located through this place in 1852 and completed the following year. A new era was now dawning in the history of the village, and from the time of the completion of the Lake Shore road, dates the substantial progress of Bellevue. The quick eye of the enterprising settler was equal to the emergency. Shops and business establishments were erected with characteristic energy for the manufacture of such commodities as the exigences of the place and its growing facilities rendered necessary. When the town was incorporated, its population was about eight hundred, but at the present time it numbers three thousand, five hundred and is constantly increasing with corresponding vitality, and evidences of commercial progress are manifested on every hand. In 1869 its corporate limits were much enlarged, being made about one mile and a half square, and still being nearly equally divided by two counties. We have not set forth in as nearly as possible their order of occurrence the principal business events which have happened in the history of Bellevue since the arrival of the first settlers, in 1815. Every event we have stated, carries with it some present interest in connection with the city's rise and progress, especially to old settlers. Could the little company of settlers in 1815, amid the privations of their log cabins and the hardships of forest life, have been told that in fifty years from that time Bellevue would be what it now is, it would have required a strong faith to believe it. Most of the early settlers have passed away, but their memories and works live green in the hearts of many left behind. There are still a few remaining, however, in whose breasts doubtless, linger happy memories of their early struggles, as with a glow of pardonable pride they gaze upon the prosperity of the city they have helped to build up, and witness her rapidly extending importance and probable destiny. Capital and enterprise abound, and on every hand there teems evidence of a vigorous prosperity, the end of which the future alone can reveal. The history of the past few years is the index to that future and judging by the past, it is but just to say that, under the protecting guidance of a beneficent Providence, Bellevue is destined to become one of the most accumulative and progressive cities in northern Ohio.

BELLEVUE OF TODAY.

Bellevue today can justly boast that she has within her borders over five thousand souls, a prosperous industrial activity and untold wealth in the agricultural community surrounding. The growth of Bellevue has not been of a mushroom variety, but a steady, substantial increasing in the number of homes and residents. Contrast the classified business list of Bellevue in 1873 with that of today, and the reader has a most forcible exhibit of the increase in mercantile pursuits. The past thirty years have been fraught with most important developments. Three railroads in addition to the one then existing have been laid through the town, and the longest electric line in the world traverses our main street. Manufacturing has become an important factor in our welfare, and the future seems to hold all things desired by the most optimistic.

The people of Bellevue have been lavishly liberal for public and civic improvement. We feel safe in saying that no town of equal population has spent so much money for public betterments and social conveniences than our little city. Within the last seven years a reservoir has been added to our waterworks equipment at a cost exceeding thirty thousand dollars; a water conduit costing seven thousand dollars has enlarged our water shed; water mains have been extended until the whole town is afforded ample fire protection and all who wish, can have use of city water. This later work has entailed an expense approaching twenty thousand dollars. This year a contract was let for reinforcing our reservoir banks with concrete walls, and this work, when completed, will reach fifteen thousand dollars in expense.

Several miles of street paving has been laid, and this year four streets have thus been improved and the aggregate cost of this work for the last few years is over one hundred thousand dollars. Bellevue can boast that she has as many miles or more miles of paved streets than any town of its size in the state.

A new city hall and fire department headquarters have been erected in the time specified and their total cost was over twelve thousand dollars. Sewers and sink-holes have been constructed and drainage improved with consequent expense. All other work incident to a growing town has been prosecuted promptly and successfully and permanently accomplished.

The people of Bellevue gave generously to the establishment of a Y. M. C. A. and a free public library. Both of these institutions, to which all of our citizens may point with pride, were financed in one brief period, three years ago. We doubt if such a thing could be accomplished in a town twice the size of Bellevue in the same length of time. Bellevue's contribution to these institutions was close to twenty thousand dollars—a liberal giving to a worthy cause for our advancement. Last year one of the central school buildings received alterations and additions, that cost nearly twelve thousand dollars. The new central school building which was erected, but a few years ago, caused an outlay of over thirty thousand dollars.

Private individuals have also spent money in that time in the improvement of real estate holdings. Manufacturers have added to their plants and new plants have been established.

PLYMOUTH.

Plymouth was founded without design, and is situate at the intersection of the State road and Beall's trail, thirty-five miles south of Sandusky. The main street of the village is the county line between Huron and Richland. Owing to its situation a number of houses were built at the intersection of the roads mentioned, and in time the question of organizing a village was successfully mooted.

The town was first called Paris, but upon its organization in 1825 its name was changed to Plymouth. The village was incorporated in 1834, but the records previous to 1855 are not in existence. The postoffice of the village is south of Main street, which places it in Richland county.

Although the town is about half and half in each county, perhaps the greater number of business houses are on the north, or Huron county line. To show the interest taken by the founders of the town in education, it is only necessary to state

that the same year the town was laid out a school house was built, and in 1830 a ladies seminary was founded, and the young ladies of the surrounding country very generally took advantage of the opportunity afforded them of acquiring a seminary education.

In 1875 the common schools were opened in a fine new building of six rooms and three hundred and fifty pupils were enrolled.

Plymouth now has two steam railroads and a trolley line.

At irregular intervals for years past reports have been made of the discovery of coal near Plymouth. But such "discoveries" never materialized. And reports have been circulated that the shaft had been "salted." It is a legitimate part of the work of the geological survey to expose and prevent frauds, but not to assert that any particular individual has perpetrated a fraud. Thin seams of carbonaceous matter or beds of bituminous shale may be reached by boring. Coal, if discovered in that locality, would have to be found below the carboniferous conglomerate, beneath which stratum coal has never been found in paying quantities.

In the ante railroad days, "going to the lake" meant a trip to Portland or Huron by teams and wagons, and these teams passed through Plymouth in long processions enroute to the lake. What a change the inaudible and noiseless foot of time has made since then.

Monteith's lake, two miles south of Plymouth, is the head waters of the Huron river.

The Sandusky, Norwalk & Mansfield trolley line passes through Monteith's grounds, and the place is now a picnic and summer resort and is called the Huron Valley Amusement Park.

LIST OF TOWNSHIPS IN HURON COUNTY.

Nineteen in number. (Alphabetically arranged.)

Bronson, Clarksfield, Fairfield, Fitchville, Greenfield, Greenwich, Hartland, Lyme, Norwalk, New London, New Haven, Norwich, Peru, Richmond, Ridgefield, Ripley, Sherman, Townsend, Wakeman.

BRONSON TOWNSHIP.

Bronson township still retains its original name. In the spring of 1817, Norwalk and Bronson were incorporated as a township for business and held their first election at Hanson Reed's.

The township derived its name from Isaac Bronson, one of the principal owners of the land.

The township, while generally level, is diversified by the branches of the Huron in the western part. In this portion of the township the soil is a loamy clay mixed with gravel, while the eastern half is mostly clay. Sandstone of the newer formation underlies a considerable portion of the township, and is quarried in some portions to a considerable extent. The varieties of timber were whitewood, hickory, beech, white ash, black walnut, the oak in several varieties, butternut, basswood, elm, sycamore, chestnut, and some other kinds of less importance. Several of the eastern branches of the Huron river run through the township, their general

course being northwest. The stream called East branch crosses the southwest corner of the township, and another crosses the northeast corner, while High Bridge creek flows from the southeast part to the northwest.

The animals of the forest were the bear, deer, wolf, wild cat, fox, raccoon, opossum, etc. The wild turkey was the principal bird, and was quite abundant. Bears were not infrequently seen, but were not often killed. Deer were numerous, and venison was a common article of food with the earlier settlers. Their skin was an article of clothing, as well as of trade. Two deer skins would suffice to make a pair of pantaloons, and one would face a pair. The facing was done by sewing the neck of the hide on to the seat, and the half of the balance on the front of each leg, with a strip around the bottom.

The woods abounded in wolves, and they were a great annoyance to the farmer. It was usual to pen their sheep up at night, in rail pens, built near the house, for to leave them out at night was to insure their destruction.

Rattlesnakes also were very numerous in the first settlement of the township, more especially in the vicinity of the streams.

The first habitation erected in Bronson, for the abode of civilized people, was the log cabin of the squatter, John Welch, built in the summer of 1815. He came from Pennsylvania with his family and located west of the creek, opposite Mr. Kellogg's. His parents and his brothers came in soon after, some of whom located in Peru, but none of the family made a permanent settlement.

OLENA VILLAGE.

In the southeast part of the township, on the Hartland line, is the village of Olena, the first house in which was built by William H. Burras, in 1832. He purchased sixteen acres of land on the southeast corner of the cross-roads, and put up a log house. He married Ruth Palmer, daughter of Abijah Palmer, of Fitchville, September 22, 1835, and moved into his log cabin, previous to which he had occupied with his parents.

Samuel Burras, an older brother of William, came with his family from the state of New York a short time afterward, and first located on the old State road, but soon after bought a short distance southeast of Olena and erected a log house, which was one of the first buildings in the place.

Among the earliest houses built at Olena, besides those mentioned, were those of Joel Wooley, on the southwest corner of the cross-roads; Hiram Allen, on the northwest corner, and John Moore a short distance west of Allen.

The first tavern at Olena was kept, in a small way, by Benjamin Drake in a log house some twenty rods south of the corners about the year 1835. In 1840, Daniel Angell bought out Drake, and his son, Ephraim Angell, continued the tavern about two years, when he bought the sixteen acres of William H. Burras and erected a framed hotel on the southeast corner of the cross-roads and kept a tavern there for ten years. Andrew Godfrey built a frame tavern on the southwest corner and kept the first postoffice there. The tavern business at this point, in the olden times of wagon trade was something immense. Mr. Angell reports that he used frequently to keep over a single night more than a hundred teams and teamsters. The rate was fifty cents, including supper and breakfast for a man and four-horse team.

The first store at Olena was occupied by Noah Close, but at what date we are unable to determine. The business, however, was not extensively carried on until about 1850, when C. W. Manahan and Courtland Cannon established a store on the southeast corner in the building formerly occupied as a hotel by Mr. Angell. They continued some two years and until the death of Cannon when Lewis Manahan became a partner of his brother. The village was formerly called Angell's Corners and continued to be so called for several years, when, at a public meeting of the citizens, the name was changed to Olena.

We date the actual settlement of the township from the arrival of Benjamin Newcomb and family, who moved in in the winter of 1815-16 and settled on lot number four, section number three.

The next settler was Martin Kellogg. He and his family consisting of his wife and three daughters.

The first white child born in Bronson was Timothy T. Newcomb, son of Benjamin and Stata Newcomb. He was born July 6, 1816, the next day after the burial of his father, who was killed by the kick of a horse.

The first couple married was Lott Herrick and Lola Sutliff. This event occurred October 16, 1818, at the house of Nathan Sutliff.

The first death was that of Benjamin Newcomb, who was killed by the kick of a horse, July 4, 1816.

The first school in Bronson was kept by Lola Sutliff, in the log barn of Martin Kellogg, in the summer of 1818. Her scholars were Maudane, Lucy, Rebecca and Polly Kellogg; Lucy, Jane, Tina, Eleanor and John Ammerman; Peggy and John Welch. The teacher received seventy-five cents per week, her wages being paid by the parents in proportion to the number of children sent.

The first school-house was built of logs on the north part of Nathan Sutliff's farm in the fall of 1819. Martin Kellogg taught the school in it the next winter and was the first male teacher in the township. The house was unfinished at the time he opened his school, and he and William W. Beckwith put it in condition for occupancy. He had about twenty scholars and received fifteen dollars per month.

The earliest religious meetings were held at this school-house, and a remarkable revival occurred there in the winter of 1823-24 when twenty-one heads of families were converted and afterwards united with the church.

The first school-house erected for the benefit of the State road settlement was built on the north town line.

The first postoffice was established at the center of the township about the year 1829 or '30. John Lyon was the first postmaster.

In the early settlement of the township the settlers obtained their grinding usually at the grist mill of David Mack, at Macksville, sometimes at Carkhuff's mill in Greenfield, and occasionally even at Mansfield.

There have been a number of sawmills erected in the township. There were formerly five in operation on High Bridge creek at the same time.

CLARKSFIELD TOWNSHIP.

BY DR. T. E. WEEKS.

In dividing the Firelands in 1808 the township of Clarksfield was assigned to the holders of the original claims of one hundred and seventeen persons whose

claims amounted to eight thousand, three hundred and thirty-nine pounds, worth then twenty-seven thousand, seven hundred and ninety-seven dollars, but these claims had been scaled down to seventeen thousand, nine hundred and twenty-four dollars, which is a little more than a dollar an acre. After the state of Ohio had incorporated the company known by the long name of the "Proprietors of the Half Million Acres of Land Lying South of Lake Erie, Called Sufferers' Land," the directors assessed a tax of two cents on the pound on the original losses for the purpose of defraying the necessary expense of surveying and dividing the lands. Many of the owners failed to pay this trifling tax and the lands were sold at "Publick Vendue," as the deeds state, in 1808. Comfort Hoyt, Jr., was one of the tax collectors and among other claims sold to Zadock Starr claims amounting to seven hundred and forty-seven dollars for ten dollars and six cents; to Ezra Wildman claims amounting to five hundred and sixty-nine dollars for seven dollars and eighty-four cents; to John Dodd claims amounting to eight hundred and sixty-two dollars for nine dollars and sixty-four cents, and other claims at like discounts. This indicates that the original claimants were often indifferent or too poor to pay the tax. Undoubtedly the most of the original sufferers or their heirs realized but little from the grant of the land. When the drawing for the division of the Firelands was made on the 9th of November, 1808, the several sections of Clarksfield township were drawn by the following persons and their claims entitled them to the number of acres opposite their names:

First, or southeast section,	
William Walton	2253
Timothy Chittenden, Jr.	1886
Second, or northeast section,	
James Clark	698
Curtis Clark	924
Joseph Trowbridge	1962
Capt. John McLean	443
Timothy Chittenden, Jr.	122
Third, or northwest section,	
John Dodd	685
L. Phillips	685
Philo Calhoun	683
Zadock Starr	687
Timothy Chittenden	586
Daniel Minor	809
Fourth, or southwest section,	
Comfort Hoyt, Jr.	2902
J. H. Gregory	26
Ezra Dibble	1178

The township was named from James Clark, who was one of the greatest sufferers from the incursions of the British in the Revolutionary war. The township contains more than sixteen thousand acres, as it is a little more than five miles square.

At the first meeting of the commissioners of Huron county, held at the county seat north of Milan, near Abbott's bridge, on the 1st day of August, 1815. Ver-



MILL DAM IN JANUARY, CLARKSFIELD

million township was organized to contain the whole of the twentieth range, that is, the townships of Vermillion, Florence, Wakeman, Clarksfield, New London and Ruggles. It also included "all of that portion of Huron county east of the Firelands," which was a considerable of the present county of Lorain. March 2, 1818, New London township was organized to comprise the townships of Ruggles, New London and Clarksfield. March 8, 1820, the commissioner "ordered that townships number three, in the twentieth and twenty-first ranges (Clarksfield and Hartland), be and the same are hereby organized into a separate township with all the privileges belonging thereto, by the name of Bethel." In 1826 the two townships were organized under their present names.

At the December meeting of the county commissioners in 1815 a road was ordered to be laid out as follows: "Beginning at the end of the north and south road which is now laid out from the lake to the south line of Jessup (now Florence), thence to continue through the twentieth range to the south line of said twentieth range through the settlement in New London." This road was cut out during the winter and is the one upon which the village of Clarksfield is located. The settlement in New London was south of the present town of New London. On the 28th day of March, 1816, two brothers, Hosea and Hiram Townsend, left Florence with an ox team on their way from Massachusetts to New London, and are said to have been the first persons to drive a team over this road. In 1810 Benjamin Stiles of New York city purchased of John Dodd one thousand, two hundred and ninety-five acres of land in Clarksfield township, at one dollar per acre. In 1817, Samuel Husted purchased of John Dodd an undivided interest in seven hundred and eight-two acres for one thousand, six hundred dollars. At this time all of the third section except one tier of lots on the south side was owned in common by Ezra Dibble, Comfort Hoyt, Jr., Timothy Chittenden, Jr., Benjamin Stiles and Samuel Husted. May 14, 1817, they quit claimed to each other definite portions of this land, Chittenden getting five hundred and ninety-five acres; Dibble & Hoyt, six hundred and ninety-three; Stiles, one thousand, three hundred, and Husted, seven hundred and fifty-two. May 19, 1817, John Dodd sold to Nathaniel and Ezra Wood, brothers, of Danbury, Connecticut, a piece of land in common in the second section, to contain one hundred and twenty-six acres, for two hundred fifty-two dollars and fifty-six cents. Another deed located the land in lot seventeen and Nathaniel soon sold his interest to Ezra. In the same year, 1817, Abraham Gray purchased of Dodd and Dibble lot thirteen in the second section (the lot next east of the Daniel Rowland farm).

In September, 1817, Benjamin Benson purchased lot seven in the third section for three hundred and thirty-five dollars. In 1811 Comfort Hoyt, Jr., deeded to his son Simeon one hundred and fifty-nine acres of lot six in the fourth section and to his daughter Dolly lot four in the same section. This land which comprises the north part of Andrew Blackman's farm and the farm of George Smith was given by her to the First Congregational church in 1826, but was deeded back to the heirs of Comfort Hoyt in 1844.

In 1817, a number of the men who became pioneers of Clarksfield owned land here and in this year we find the first attempt to make a break in the forest. Samuel Husted was a stirring man of thirty-eight years of age and with a growing family, living at Danbury, Connecticut, and he decided to set up a home for himself on the

land he owned in Ohio—that land of promise so far away from civilization. Ezra Wood, a young man whose wife was a niece of Mrs. Husted, also desired to see the new country. These two men started from Danbury in a one-horse wagon May 19, 1817. The narrative of their journey has fortunately been preserved in print. We quote from the narrative of Jonathan Fitch in the *Firelands Pioneer* of June, 1864: "On the 19th day of May, 1817, I left Norwalk, Connecticut, for Ohio, in company with Capt. Adam Swan, his Irishman Kelley and John and Seth Keeler. We went by the way of New York city, which we reached about noon on the 20th. After resting a few hours we crossed the river to what is now Jersey City, and reaching Morristown we put up for the night. Moving forward the next morning, we arrived at the top of a long hill about mid-day when we stopped by the wayside, fed our horses and resorted to our provision chest. While eating we discovered two men in a one-horse wagon ascending the hill. As they came near they raised the shout: 'Hurrah for Ohio!' They proved to be strangers to us, but we were not long in making their acquaintance. They were Captain Husted and a Mr. Wood (given name not remembered). They hailed from Danbury, Connecticut, and were bound for Ohio. Learning at Norwalk of our departure, they had hastened to overtake us. Our numbers being thus increased to seven, we moved on over hills, valleys, rivers and mountains to Pittsburg, which we reached the 8th of June. Here we rested for the Sabbath. Monday we traveled on to the west side of the Big Beaver bridge, where our new acquaintances left us, taking to the right hand road to go to Clarksfield, Huron county, while we kept on direct to Mansfield, Richland county. We arrived at Mr. Giles Swan's north of Mansfield June 17th." In the same year Mr. Fitch started back to Connecticut on horseback. He and another man left Mr. Swan's, near Mansfield, November 10, 1817. He says: "On our journey east of Pittsburg we met an ox team with household goods. I told Smith it must be Captain Husted, but the driver was a stranger to me. We soon, however, met three horse teams. I raised a hurrah for Captain Husted, and in response he dropped his lines and waded through the mud to reach me upon my horse. He said he was overjoyed to see one he knew. A Mr. Starr, I think, was with him. After a brief interview we bade each other farewell and went on our ways." Husted and Wood went to Florence and stopped with Major Barnum, another Danbury man who had come to Florence eight years before. Fitch says that his party reached Mansfield June 17th and we may reasonably suppose that Husted and Wood reached Florence about the same time. Making Florence their headquarters, they came over into the woods of Clarksfield on Husted's land and worked for six weeks, preparing the timbers for a log cabin and clearing off the trees adjoining. Six men raised the house and these men were probably from Florence. Wood says that Husted cut the first tree and built the first house in the township, and E. M. Barnum, who came two years later, also says that Husted put up the first house. We find no reason to dispute this claim. Husted and Wood went back to Danbury after this.

There is considerable uncertainty in regard to the first actual settler in the township, but we believe the weight of evidence is in favor of the statement that the family of Stephen Post was the first to live here, although Ezra Wood, Benjamin Benson and E. M. Barnum, who have written sketches of the pioneer settlement of the township, fail to mention Mr. Post, but Simeon Hoyt, who came in

1817, says that Mr. Post was here when he came. Although we believe Mr. Husted built the first house his family did not come until some months afterward. Bushnell Post, a son of Stephen, tells the story of his father's journey to Ohio in the following words: "In the year 1815, down in the Empire state and in the rich valley of Genesee, there lived a family of Posts, a family of Miners, a family of Russells and a family of Andersons, all neighbors, or what was called neighbors in those early days, for though some miles of wooded roads lay between them, yet their social gatherings and their friendly greetings proclaimed them neighbors indeed. These four families consisted of the following persons: Stephen Post, my father; Sally Post, my mother; sisters Cynthia and Anna, brothers Isaiah, Stephen and William, and the baby, sister Lucinda; and connected with the family as a hired man at this time was Zara C. Norton, in all nine persons. Asel Miner and his wife, Polly Miner, George Miner, Joel and Albert Miner make up a family of six. The Russells were three in number; the mother and the two sons, Olcott and Charles; and in the other was Henry Anderson, his wife and a daughter, Laura, and connected with the family was Simeon Munson, who came down from Ohio to help move them. The sum total of persons were twenty-two. Some time in the month of December, 1815, these four families came together with their goods packed and piled on three or four sleds, and one wagon was loaded with goods, and these loads were to be hauled by three or four ox teams and two spans of horses. Around were gathered six cows, three hogs and one pet sheep. The little lads, with sticks in their hands, were behind to drive the drove, the women and little children were tucked in among the goods, the drivers were at their post, with their faces set toward the frozen waters of Lake Erie, and with a crack of the whip they move on over the creaking snow. * * * They reach the place where the great city of Cleveland now stands, and—what do they find? One solitary log hotel down on the bottoms of the Cuyahoga river, but are told that there are a few houses up on the hills. On, on, we trace them; we hear the little lads complain of sore feet and weary limbs, the little children cry with cold and hunger, the mothers with anxious care, can but heave a sigh, and the father's whoa, haw, gee, with energy rings out along the wooded way. The most serious mishap happens as they near the mouth of the Vermillion, where an ox sled capsized on the uneven ice that was cracked and bulged here and there, and scattered its contents over the ice just as the shades of night were setting thick and fast. A box of axes found a crack in the ice and slumped through and found a resting place in the gravelly bed of the lake. The goods were gathered up that night lest a wind should spring up and ice, goods and all be among the missing ere the dawn of another day. But the ice was there; the crack was found and the box of axes was fished out of eight or ten feet of water the next morning. Arriving at what is known as Sprague's corners in Florence, my father's family put up for the rest of the winter—it now being the last of December or some time the first of January, 1816—while the other three families held on for New London. In the spring of this year our family moved to New London and into the house belonging to Benjamin Hendricks and near the west line of the farm now owned by George Bissell. Here they raised corn, potatoes and garden sauce on the little opening that Hendricks had made, and during that fall they built a house in the southwest corner of Clarksfield, and the foundation logs were laid very near where now stands the

neat and trim white house of Mr. Dunning. They moved to this round log structure some time that fall or winter—the opening of 1817—there being but one white person living in the township at the time, he being an old bachelor who had a shanty on the place now owned by Mrs. Baldwin—a Mr. Osmer by name who was there when our family moved into that good old log home built beneath the shades of the towering trees of southwest Clarksfield. * * * And here, above all other events on the first day of June, 1817, the first white child of the township was born—my youngest sister, Almira. Here, too, occurred the first wedding of the township, Zara C. Norton, being wedded to my oldest sister, Cynthia, and the knot was tied by 'Squire Case of New London. This wedding is down in the pioneer book of this county as having taken place in New London. But this is a mistake; it took place in the first log house built in Clarksfield, it being the one built by the hands of my father. * * * The nearest mill was eighty miles away, down on Owl creek, where my father went once the first year we lived in New London with a wagon loaded with corn and wheat and a pair of oxen and one horse hitched ahead of them to haul the load, my oldest brother riding the horse to lead the way and Philo T. Porter bringing up the rear with another ox team hauling another wagon like loaded. Well, they made the trip and returned home in three weeks, being delayed by high waters, where they found hungry, anxious friends awaiting them. Our people lived on the Clarksfield farm two years, but the trouble to get to mill caused them to move to Richland county and settle near where Hayesville now is. Here they lived for two years." In another article Mr. Post tells about his father's family coming to Ohio and says that it was in 1816 that they started from their home in the east and 1817 when they went to New London and moved into a house built by a Mr. *William* Hendrix, "and where on June 1st a little sister was born."

"Here they tarried for only a short time, until a house could be built on a section of land in the southwest corner of Clarksfield, where they moved in the fall and where they lived for a year or two." Our readers will notice that there are some differences in these two statements. One makes the date of their arrival in New London and Clarksfield a year later than the other. One says that the baby sister was born in Clarksfield, and the other that she was born in New London; one says that the house they moved into was built by Benjamin Hendriks, the other by William Hendrix. [The latter was a son of the former.] These discrepancies lessen the historical value of the statements and we must look for corroborating evidence. Dr. Skellenger says that the younger Stephen Post said that they came to Clarksfield in 1816, but he (Skellenger) upon investigation thinks it was a year later. In the history of New London township Dr. Skellenger says that Stephen Post, Henry Anderson and Mrs. Russell and her sons came to New London in 1817. It seems the most reasonable to suppose that Mr. Post came to Clarksfield in the fall of 1817, after spending the summer in New London.

Zara C. Norton, who came to Ohio with the family of Stephen Post, was born in Wolcott, Connecticut, November 15, 1799. He was married to Cynthia Post October 14, 1818, by Esquire Case of New London, and this was the first wedding in Clarksfield. After their marriage they lived with Mr. Post, went to Richland county with him and came back with him, but then settled in a log house on the north side of the town line road east of Barrett's Corners, on a farm now owned

by Edward Hubbard. The little red house was built by Mr. Norton in later years. In 1829 he was licensed to exhort and to preach in 1833. At this time he went on the circuit as a Methodist minister and was away from home much of the time. In 1840 he was admitted to conference and in 1841 he was assigned to a circuit in Williams county and remained for two years, but the family remained on the farm.

In the fall of 1817 Simeon Hoyt and Smith Starr started from Danbury, Connecticut, with their families, in a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen and one horse and after a journey lasting six weeks they reached Clarksfield in October. Hoyt settled on his farm in the south part of the township where Sherman Smith afterward lived and died. It will be remembered that Mr. Hoyt was one of the party of surveyors who surveyed the Firelands in 1806 and later. In 1809 Comfort Hoyt, the father of Simeon, and one of the original proprietors of the Firelands, came out to see the land and was taken sick at Huron. Simeon sent to Cleveland for a doctor. After a while he recovered so as to be able to travel. Simeon had intended to remain longer, but was obliged to return to Connecticut with his father. Years afterward, when he was seventy years of age, Comfort Hoyt came to Ohio on horseback to visit his children, and returned to Connecticut the same way. In describing his experiences Simeon says: "I came with an ox team in company with Smith Starr. We were six weeks on the road. I had previously purchased the land on which I moved. It was nearly all a wilderness at that time. A few families were living in New London and Stephen Post in this town. We found it hard times. Provisions were scarce and high, and no roads. How we ever lived I can hardly tell, but we did, and in a few years became situated very comfortably." Also in another letter: "My family the first year comprised eleven persons, and it was no easy matter to provide provisions for so large a household. We obtained some flour from Richland county and some from Huron, and made use of pounded corn some of the time. After the first year we were not troubled for the necessities of life."

Smith Starr, who came with Simeon Hoyt, was a son of Peter, son of Samuel, son of Samuel, son of Josiah, son of Thomas, son of Dr. Comfort Starr, who came from England to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1634, and later to Boston. He was born at Ridgefield, Connecticut, and was married to Joanna Knapp in 1805. When they came to Clarksfield they had a number of children, John T., the oldest, being eleven years old. They first moved into the log house which Captain Husted had built in June until their own house could be put up. This was built on the south hill near the site of the fine frame house which he built afterwards and which was his home until his death. It is now owned by Grant Johns. He was a shoemaker by trade and brought leather on his back from the nearest tannery, some thirty miles distant. His shop and tools were destroyed by fire, so he gave up the business and built a sawmill on the bank of Spring brook in 1819, the first sawmill in the town. He was a useful man in the community and served as postmaster for many years.

The first of November, 1817, Samuel Husted again started from Danbury, Connecticut, for Ohio, but this time he brought his family of wife and six children with him. Hester Paul and Jachim Morris must have come with them as members of the family. Eli Seger and family also accompanied them. The Mr. Starr which Fitch mentions as being with Husted was not Smith Starr. Mary Jane

Husted was only six weeks old when they started and her cradle was a basket hung from the top of the covered wagon and she is said to have been the least trouble of any of the children. Probably the swaying of the wagon as it passed over the rough roads kept her cradle rocking. They were six weeks on the road. Husted drove an ox team with a white horse ahead. This animal lived for many years afterward and was known by the name of "Knitting Work," on account of her nipping kind of a gait. A piece of their wagon is still preserved by the youngest son. They came by the way of Pittsburg, Petersburg, Canfield, Rocky River, Ridgeville and Black river, as an old account book shows. Husted furnished the means to pay Seger's way and charged him fourteen dollars for carrying a chest three hundred miles. He went into his own log cabin which stood near the brow of the hill north of the Hollow, near Albert Stone's house. After a few years he built the first frame house in the township in the Hollow, near the brick store. The old log house was used for a school house.

Benjamin Benson was a butcher in New York city. He was a member of the First Troop of Horse Artillery under Colonel Joseph Bogart in the war of 1812, and spent a little time in camp when the troops were called out to defend the city against an expected attack of the British, but did not see active service. He purchased a piece of land here in Clarksfield in the summer of 1817. He started for Ohio October 14, 1817. He says: "Traveling was very expensive, even when a man drove his own team, owing chiefly to the great flood of emigration at that time settling toward the west. The price of oats on the main thoroughfares would average about seventy-five cents a bushel, with hay proportionately dear. Our destination was Clarksfield, Huron county, Ohio, and we arrived at Florence on the 2d day of December, where we were accommodated by Major Barnum with shelter within the body of a log house without chimney or floor or anything but the bare logs with open spaces of three or four inches between them, thus affording very inadequate protection against the rigor of winter, which, after our arrival had begun in good earnest and continued through the months of January and February at a temperature with little variation, bordering upon zero. During this time we built a log cabin and before the spring opened we had removed to our intended future home." This cabin stood near the place where Robert Hurlbut afterward built his house, on the road about a half mile south of the Hollow.

Aaron Rowland was born in 1780, in a military camp at Danbury, Connecticut. In 1799 he was married to Deborah Dean of Carmel, New York. They located at Southeast, Putnam county, New York. Mr. Rowland was a miller by trade and operated flouring and sawmills along the Croton river. On the 10th day of October, 1818, he started from Southeast in a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen and one horse. His family consisted of a wife and six children. Accompanying him was his brother-in-law, Ezra Wood, and family. They reached Clarksfield November 18th. Captain Husted's wife was an aunt to Mr. Rowland and Mrs. Wood, so all hands found shelter in Mr. Husted's log cabin. This addition must have swelled the number of inmates to about twenty. The probability is that the Husted family were glad to see some of their own folks and willing to be crowded for a short time. Mr. Husted charged Mr. Wood four dollars for a week's board for himself and wife. Mr. Rowland found employment at once in Captain Husted's new grist mill. Perhaps he had come here with that understanding. He

built a log house a little ways north of Husted's house where Ezra Wildman afterwards lived, near the house of Mrs. Hubbell. He operated the mill when there was water and attended to farming at other times until 1822, when he moved to his own land which he had bought before he came here.

The first physician to make a settlement in the wilderness of Clarksfield was Andrew McMillan. He was of Scotch parentage but was born in the state of New York. About 1820 he came with his father's family to a farm near Monroeville and in July, 1822, he came to Clarksfield.

Joseph Osyer moved from Canada to Berlin and in 1820 to Hartland Ridge, settling on the farm known as the Eno Holiday farm. In 1824 he sold out his place and moved to Clarksfield, living in a log house on the farm of Benjamin Stiles, back of Charles Fisher's house. He used to make many shingles and had a shed near his house where he used to shave the shingles. The Stiles boys and others of the neighborhood used to like to go there and watch him at work. He received two dollars per thousand for his shingles, and the price seems small when we consider that every shingle was split and shaved by hand and made of the very best oak or whitewood timber.

On the 3d day of November, 1820, "the inhabitants of Bethel were legally warned for the purpose of building a bridge across the Vermillion river." This was without doubt the bridge at the "Hollow."

In 1825 Joseph Waldron received two dollars for putting up guide boards. In April, 1825, after the separation of the townships the following officers were elected in Clarksfield: Andrew McMillan, clerk; Asa Wheeler, Jr., Platt Sexton and Sheldon Freeman, trustees; Samuel Husted and John Hough, overseers of the poor; Ira Peck and Andrew McMillan, fence viewers; Smith Starr, Lister and Andrew McMillan, appraisers of property; Aaron Rowland, treasurer; Levi Barnum and Stiles Webb, constables; John Wriker, John Hough, Stephen Post, Ezra Rowland and Harvey Webb, supervisors. In May the trustees divided the township into four school districts and made a list of the householders, forty-four in number.

Samuel Stiles, who was born November 13, 1818, was without doubt the first white child born in the township and Bethiah Wheeler was the first girl. Dorothy Benson, who was born January 9, 1819, was probably the third white child born here. The first death, as before stated, was that of Ephraim Seger, which occurred on the 27th or 28th of August, 1818. He had been sent on an errand by his father and when he returned was set to work picking up chips to put on a log heap. He was soon heard to exclaim, "What has bit me!" A large rattlesnake was found in the weeds and was quickly put into the burning log heap. It was found that the boy had been bitten on the wrist and he died three days afterward. In 1820 Horace Bodwell went down into Levi Barnum's well, a very deep one, on the Abraham Gray place, and was overcome with the "damps," and fell to the bottom. Omri Nickerson went down and after several attempts succeeded in fastening a rope to the body and it was drawn out, but life was extinct. Two deaths by falling trees, those of Henry Vanderveer and Rodney Blackman, occurred soon after the settlement of the town.

The first wedding in the township was that of Zara C. Norton and Cynthia Post, on the 14th day of October, 1818, and the second was that of Obadiah Jenney and Hester Paul.



EAST MAIN STREET, NEW LONDON, OHIO

There have been many other stores in the township, but their history will be considered at a later date.

The first settlers, coming as they did from New England, were people of considerable education as a rule, and they began to erect school houses very soon after they were established in their new homes. Captain Husted gave Ezra Wood credit for one day's work at school house in December, 1818. The first school house in that township was built of logs, south of the Hollow not far from the Hough house, in 1819 and Miss Alzina Barker was the first teacher. This building was burned in 1829. It was supposed that some of the young men set fire to it in hopes of getting a better building. A frame building was soon afterward built just north of the river on the east side of the road. Soon after the first school house was built at the Hollow another was erected in the Stiles settlement some distance south of the present village of West Clarksfield. During the first years the schools were supported by those inhabitants who sent children to school, the expense being borne according to the number sent. But three months of school were taught in a year.

During the first four years of the new settlement the inhabitants had to go to Florence, or, perhaps, New London, for their mail. In 1821 a postoffice was established at Clarksfield with Smith Starr as postmaster, and he held that office until 1853, with the exception of two short intervals.

In 1834, Asa Wheeler, Jr., sold to Samuel Husted and David Tyler the strip of land at Clarksfield between the river and the east and west road and running from Spring Brook west to the north and south road, for fifty dollars. Husted and Tyler built a saw mill at the west end of this land. The power was derived from water brought by a race from the grist mill race. The mill cost three hundred forty-two dollars and twenty-eight cents, as shown by one of Husted's books. This mill was operated until about 1888, but has now nearly disappeared from the face of the earth. On March 5, 1836, this property was sold to Virgil Squire and Ebenezer Warner (of Florence) for one thousand, five hundred dollars. On the same day Samuel Husted sold to Squire and Warner the old gristmill property including the pond and race, for one thousand, five hundred dollars. On September 30, 1836, Squire and Warner sold both properties to George Lawton and David Tyler for four thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars and on November 16, 1836, Starr sold to Lawton and Tyler the store and two acres of land afterward occupied by J. J. Cobb, for seven hundred and fifty dollars. On March 4, 1837, Lawton and Tyler sold to Virgil Squire a one-third interest in their property for two thousand, five hundred dollars. In the same year John Hayes sold to Squire, Lawton and Tyler the land where the present grist mill stands, including his store and privilege of water from the mill race, and, at the same time Samuel Husted sold to them the triangular piece of land bounded by the New London road, where it angles to the east, the lot line and the east and west road, with the point near the top of the hill, for one hundred dollars. Mr. Tyler soon sold out his interest. In the fall of 1837 Squire & Lawton began the erection of a grist mill on the premises and it was completed the next year, about September 1st. On the day when the mill was started there was quite a gathering of the inhabitants of the place, and as was usual upon such occasions, the men were ready to indulge in sports. Myron Furlong attempted to jump across the race, which was sixteen feet

wide and full of water but he undershot the mark and landed in the water. This created a laugh and he excused himself by saying that no man could jump across and that he should have known better than to try. This led to a banter and a bet that a man could be found who would jump across. Ben Patch, who was not a man grown, was sent for and when he came Almanza Hamlin told him what was wanted and patted him on the shoulder, saying, "Bennie, I would rather lose a hundred dollars than have you fail." He did not fail, but made the jump easily and the laugh was on Furlong again. The machinery for this mill was hauled by teams from Huron, to which place it had probably been shipped from Pittsburg. It had four runs of stone and was capable of doing a good deal of business while the water lasted. It was driven by a large overshot wheel, which was replaced by a turbine wheel in later years. About 1850 a steam engine was put in for use when the water did not suffice. A few years ago modern roller process machinery was put in and since then all of the stones have been removed and the water power discarded entirely. It still does a large business with the farmers. Squire & Lawton did not have capital enough to carry on the business successfully and the property was heavily mortgaged. In 1842 Lawton sold his interest to Squire for five hundred dollars. On November 25, 1837, Squire & Lawton sold to David Tyler a tract of land fifty-two by one hundred feet, including a building upon it, which stood twenty-six feet east of the mill then building, "with a water privilege of as much water as would spout through an aperture three feet six inches by two inches, with two feet head, but reserving the right to run four stones and two saws." This building is where Mr. Tyler carried on the business of making furniture, drums, coffins and almost anything which could be made from wood. This shop was burned in 1841 and another was erected in the same place, but it has been moved away and converted into a barn. In 1837 Samuel H. Gibson entered into a contract with David Tyler and Samuel Husted, in which Tyler agreed to let Gibson have the "privilege of water on said Tyler's land for use of propelling a wheel for carding and cloth dressing, and also agreed to furnish a shop and fit it in order for the above and put in a fulling mill and furnish one-half of all outgoes, wood, candles, soap, dye wood, dye stuffs, etc., and in turn was to receive one-fourth of the avails of the business." Mr. Husted agreed that when the water should not be sufficient to carry the grist mill and cloth works, to secure the water for the cloth works for the consideration of one-half of Tyler's avails, at the time his water was used for said works. The business of cloth dressing was carried on in the basement of Mr. Tyler's shop until it was burned. Silas Earl then built a cloth mill across the river from the grist mill and carried on the business until a freshet came on New Year's Day of 1847 and wrecked the machinery. He used horse power at first but put in a steam engine later. Virgil Squire kept a store at Clarksfield in 1835, in a building which stood near the foot of the hill north of Smith Starr's, and the business was continued by Squire & Lawton.

The building used to face the north, but Cobb had it turned around to face the west and had it painted anew, and he put in the best stock of goods which had been brought to the town. He had a partner, Mr. Buckingham, of Norwalk, until 1843. In 1848 he had the store building moved back and a large two-story building with a basement was erected and then Mr. Cobb enlarged his business until he drew trade from all the surrounding country. Excepting a store at Wake-

man and another at King's Corners (now New London), Clarksfield offered the chief facilities for trade in this part of the country, until the advent of railroads changed the order of things. Mr. Cobb bought anything which the farmers had to sell and supplied them with nearly everything which could be bought in stores at that time. The most of his produce was shipped at Milan and his goods came from there. He kept several teams busy most of the time. When he moved away he sold out to Tyler & Seger and they were followed in 1858-59 by Sam and Harley Jones. William Stiles carried on the business from 1859 to 1865, followed by J. N. Barnum, Seneca Ronk and Frank Wildman. The building has not been occupied for several years. Winslow Fay opened a store here in 1839 in a new building which he erected on the hill south of Smith Starr's house. He had a partner, one Albert Sherwood, until 1845. Fay sold out to him, but put up a smaller building by the side of the one sold to Sherwood, and carried on a store there for a short time. The first building erected by Fay was fitted for a school house some years after Fay moved away, and now stands at the foot of the hill east of the Cobb store. The second building erected by Fay was cut in two and one-half of it moved to the foot of the hill south of the old Cobb store, the other half stood on the lot north of the Congregational parsonage until recently, when it was torn down. When the Vermillion & Ashland railroad company was building its road north of this place, it bought the Husted store and hired Simeon B. Sturges to carry on the business, but after the company failed the store was sold to Abel D. Howe at sheriff's sale. Seger & Curtiss kept store there at one time. In 1820 Ezra Wildman came from Danbury, Connecticut, to Clarksfield, bringing a load of goods and he made several trips afterward, until he moved here in 1828. It is likely that his brother-in-law, Captain Husted, sold out the goods for him. When Johnson Wheeler bought the Barnum mill north of Rowland's corners, at what came to be known as Hayesville, he carried on a store in one corner of the mill, until a building was put up on the east side of the road on the north bank of the ravine, called the "Mansion House," where one room was used for a store. He also carried on a distillery. Albert Seger carried on a foundry at Hayesville for some time and then he and Walter Bates built a foundry at Clarksfield on the north side of the road just west of where the old grist-mill used to stand.

We learn that Alvin Coe, a Presbyterian, and William Westlake, a Methodist, were the first regular ministers. Other men visited the new colony and some of these missionary workers saw hard times. David Marks was one of them and in his *Memoirs* (see page twenty-two) he gives a narrative of his first journey to Ohio. Finding that a Free Will Baptist church had already been established at Milan, he journeyed on to New London, Clarksfield and Danbury, where he attended meetings "with some appearance of success." On the 29th and 30th of June, 1822, a general meeting was held at Milan. "Brethren attended from three small churches in Milan, Greenfield and Clarksfield, which were the only Free Will Baptist churches in this part of the country." In August of this year he attended meetings at Clarksfield in addition to other places. It is probable that the first church society organized in the township was the Baptist, but we are unable to learn anything more concerning it than stated above.

There was a society of Free Will Baptists here at one time. When the Millerite doctrine began to be preached here, some of the members of the Baptist church embraced the new faith but when the prophecy that the world would come to an end on a certain day in April, 1844, did not prove to be true, some of these joined the Congregational church, under the preaching of John Todd. There was a larger society of Close Communion Baptists here, among whom were J. J. Cobb and wife, Robert W. Hurlbut and wife, Ezra Wood, the Fletchers. Aaron and Levi Rowland, Essex Call and family, Asa Percy, William Wood, Ransom Day and wife, Mrs. I. B. Scott and Mrs. Henry Kress, the last two being the only ones to hold their membership when the society disbanded. In 1845 a new school house was built across the street from the Congregational church and the building which had been used was made over into a church. J. J. Cobb helped much in the work. Elder Hall was the first minister in the new church building. The church society was kept up for about ten years and then there was a division and some of the members withdrew and organized a society at Rowland's corners. About 1837 a Methodist church was organized at East Clarksfield and a church building was afterwards erected at Whitefox corners and is still in use. We have been unable to get any history of the early days of this church. Two other Methodist churches have been built in the township, one at Barrett's corners and the other at West Clarksfield.

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Fairfield township still bears its original name. It was so called from Fairfield, Connecticut, where many of those lived who had received the land in payment for loss of property in the Revolutionary war. It was detached from Bronson and organized in 1823.

The surface of the township is quite level, except in the northwest portion where there are ridges and curiously formed hills. The soil throughout is rich and there is no waste land. The whole township was originally covered with an unusually heavy growth of timber—maple, beech, whitewood and black walnut, the last two varieties being found in great quantity. Black walnut was so common that it was used in large quantity for fence rails by the earliest settlers. Many of these old rails have since been worked up into furniture and house finishing material. The principal stream in the township is a tributary of the Huron river, and flows westward through sections one and four, thence northward through section three into Bronson. Fords creek runs through the southwest corner of the township, and empties into the Huron river in Greenfield township. There is a sandstone formation underlying the whole township, and it occasionally crops out in such a manner as to be available for use. There are stone quarries in the first, second and third sections, but none of them are worked upon an extensive scale.

Deer was very abundant in the early settlement, often from twenty to fifty were seen in half a day. Many were killed and their skins were used for clothing. Wild turkeys were found in great abundance. Wolves were troublesome for the first few years. A few bears were also found.

The present generation can scarcely form an adequate appreciation of the toilsome labor, privation, danger and last, but not least, the deep sense of isolation that the pioneers of the Western Reserve experienced. There was a great deal to be done, and very little to do it with. Food was scarce, and sometimes it was difficult to obtain a sufficient amount to alleviate hunger. It is said that some of the early settlers followed the cows around, and selected leaves and plants that they ate, for greens, knowing that the instinct of the animals would lead them to avoid any thing of a poisonous nature. The pioneers of Fairfield were obliged to make a five days' trip to Cold creek, Margaretta township, to get their milling done. There was but little money in the country, and but little to buy even had money been plenty. Nearly all manufactured implements brought a very high price, and the settlers often managed to do the work of clearing and tilling the soil, with the tools which their descendants would not think of using. Notwithstanding the hard life they led, the severe toil that was necessary to procure even the commonest conveniences of existence the pioneers were happy upon their frugal fare, and healthful,—physically and morally. They passed minor difficulties without noticing them, and met and overcame the more formidable ones bravely. The first few pioneers lent willing aid to those who came after them, and thus the severity of the settlers' experience was moderated by degrees until the community had attained a fair growth, and the advantages of civilization had been secured.

The first clearing in the township was made by a widow, of foreign birth, named Sample, and the boys in her family of nine children—John, Martha, Betsey, James, William, Anna, Samuel, Nancy and David. They came from Newark, Licking county, Ohio, in the year 1816, and settled on lot thirty-six, in the third section. The widow was a woman of very remarkable ability and of strong constitution. The family was very poor, and Mrs. Sample and her boys and girls were compelled to live in a manner which many people would consider impossible. It is related, upon the best of authority, that the boys went bare-footed all of one winter, while they were chopping timber and extending the clearing in which their rude cabin stood. They heated large chips by the fire, and carrying them to the place where they were intending to fell a tree, stood upon them until they grew cold, and then heated them again and again, until their day's work was done. Day after day they labored under this disadvantage, which less hardy people would regard as insurmountable. The mother of these boys was their equal, if not superior, in energy and spirit, and was ingenious as well. She out-reaped a man in the grain field in 1817, and clothed her family in cloth which she wove from the silk of wild nettles. Mrs. Sample married Jacob Rush, who died soon after. Her daughter Martha married Amos Harkness. The mother removed to the west, and lived to be nearly a hundred years old.

When the settlement was new, bears, deer, wolves and other animals were found in great abundance. The bears made hunting something more than a *dilletanti* amusement; the deer afforded food for the table and clothing for the hunters; the wolves were simply an annoyance, and the minor animals lent variety to the sport of hunting and to the larders of the pioneers' houses. Several bears were killed in the township. We narrate one instance, as it is a somewhat novel one, and although seemingly outside of the realm of probability, if not of

possibility, is vouched for by those whose word is above suspicion of unreliability. George Eldridge, while passing through the woods, one day, in the northern part of the township, where the Jennings's farm now is, saw, at a little distance, a full grown bear standing upon the trunk of a large fallen tree. He raised his rifle, took a steady aim and fired. The bear fell down behind the tree, and Eldridge, not knowing whether he had killed him or not, reloaded his gun. He had no balls and so put in a beech slug. He had no sooner got his gun in readiness for use, then he saw the head of bruin raised above the tree trunk. He fired, and the animal dropped from sight. The hunter prudently loaded a second time and as quickly as possible, for in those days no man felt safe when in the woods unless provided for any emergency. After ramming the second beech slug home, he waited a few seconds and was rewarded with a third shot, which, like the former ones, apparently took effect. Again the bear fell from the log. Reloading the rifle, Eldridge went cautiously forward to see whether the three shots fired had quite ended the animal's life, and on reaching the tree trunk and looking over it, was surprised to find three dead bears instead of one. He had supposed, all of the time, that there was but one bear in the vicinity, that the first and second shots had only slightly wounded him, and that he had each time, after recovering his surprise, again clambered upon the tree to reconnoiter the enemy. The trio consisted of a she bear and two cubs, more than half grown. The old bear weighed four hundred pounds, and her flesh furnished food for several families. This bear killing episode was commonly looked upon as something reflecting great credit upon Mr. Eldridge. He was a good marksman, but probably his success in this instance depended as much upon "good luck," or the kindness of fate, as upon his ability. Killing three bears in a period of time measured by about as many minutes, and with only three shots, two of them with bits of wood in the place of leaden ball, is a feat not often, if ever, equaled. The adventure became, and was for a long time, the subject of much wonder throughout the neighborhood.

The center road, north and south, was, as originally cut through the forest, the Harrison road. It was made by the General's troops, and subsequently was straightened and improved. In 1825, when the new state road was laid out eleven miles through Fairfield and portions of Ripley and Bronson, the residents of this township gave material assistance to the enterprise. The road cost one hundred dollars per mile. The west, or ridge road, was laid out at an early day.

It is probable that Jonas Leonard, a native of Connecticut, who had settled in Bronson, taught the first school in Fairfield, about 1824. The school house was in the northwest quarter, or third section. The township is now well provided with district schools, and the union schools of North Fairfield afford higher instruction to those who desire it.

The first church in the township was the Methodist Episcopal, in 1822, with a class of less than a dozen members, but owing to the untiring exertions of those few a strong membership soon developed and in time a church edifice was erected. The other denominations came later, and they, too, have prospered.

The first postmaster was Walter Branch. He was commissioned January 1, 1829. He held the office for four years, and then resigned in favor of Horace L. Moulton.

The first cemetery was laid out in lot eleven, section three, upon the Ridge road, near the northeast corner of the township. The first settlers located in this vicinity, and the little piece of ground was set aside for burial purposes at an early day. There is another cemetery on the same road—lot one, section four; one on the Bronson town line road—lot six, section three, and one in North Fairfield village, just east of the corners.

Among the early settlers were Eliphalet W. Day. He was born in Connecticut and settled in Fairfield township in 1818. Aaron Smith settled there in 1820, and Philip Moffitt came in 1819. Spencer Baker also came in 1819. Samuel Foote also in 1819. Havilah Smith became a settler in Fairfield in 1821, and John Cherry came at a little earlier date.

A log house could be raised in half a day. The raising would be attended by all the settlers, and glad they were of the chance to have another settler added to the population. They took great pride in doing such a job. During all the chopping and clearing and many log raisings no serious accident occurred until 1828 when Henry Randall had his skull fractured by the falling of a bent at a barn raising, and died within an hour.

The Indians would come to the township and hunt every fall for several years after its first settlement. They claimed to be friendly, but would go to the cribs and take corn without leave, and were otherwise annoying.

NORTH FAIRFIELD VILLAGE.

The first store in the township was opened at the center in the year 1831, by Ezra Smith, of Macksville, but soon after several enterprising men made efforts to establish a village at what was then known as Greenfield's corners. They were so far successful as to create all that now exists in North Fairfield, and in fact much more, for the village was at one time a flourishing business center, and had bright prospects of future prosperity. William Greenfield, Samson Baker, Walter Branch and Samuel Foote were largely instrumental in securing the location of various industries at this place. Horace S. Moulton opened the first store at Greenfield's corners, in 1832. Union White, of Fitchville, Woodworth and Holmes, Clark Sexton, A. R. Eastman, and a man by the name of West, began at an early day. D. S. Stevens opened a dry goods store in 1838. Manufactories were established, and the village developed for a few years at a rate, which, had it been long continued, would have produced a little city. A newspaper. The Fairfield Gazette, was established, and had, for a time, a fair patronage. The first copy was issued April 23, 1856, by Robert McCune. Afterwards the paper was under the charge of J. Ralph Robinson, and still later of O. B. Chapman. He moved it to Bellevue. The causes of Fairfield's failure to become all that its residents fondly hoped, were numerous. Chief among them was the building of railroads all around the village, at a distance of ten or a dozen miles, and the failure of the projected Clinton extension, which was (upon paper) a link of a long chain extending from New York to the great west. Over seventy thousand dollars of Fairfield money went out of existence with this bubble. The Milar canal was another failure. The largest manufactory in the little village—the chair factory—and the steam mill, built at an early day, vanished in fire—ended

in smoke. Other evils assisted in thwarting the plans of the would-be founders of a city, and slowly, but surely, the last hope of making North Fairfield a large and live business town passed away. All that was left the people was the reasonable certainty that the village would always be, what it now is, a peaceful and pleasant home, in which there will never be an excess of bustle and din and sordid strife, but always well being, good manners and better morals.

North Fairfield village contains four of the five churches which have come into existence in the township, and most of the manufactories.

The first tavern was built about 1835, and is still standing, a part of the Fairfield house. The first landlord was Otis Thornton.

Although North Fairfield failed to get the courthouse and the steam railroad it now has a fine electric line running north and south—the Sandusky, Norwalk & Mansfield. The village contains some fine residences, has a good country trade and supports a printing office.

FITCHVILLE TOWNSHIP.

Fitchville township is supposed to have received its name from a man named Fitch, who was quite a large land-holder within its limits, and who resided in Connecticut.

The land is generally rolling or sufficiently so to make it easy of drainage and good tillage. The soil is various, some portions, being well supplied with clay, others quite sandy, and many of the ridges quite gravelly. The township was formerly well timbered with beech, maple, white-wood, black walnut, oak, hickory, white ash, black ash, bass wood and elm. The Vermillion river heads at a lake near Savannah, Ashland county, enters this township near the southeast corner, passes through near the center, and leaves it a little east of the center.

This stream furnished water power and was of great service to the early settlers. As early as 1825 there was a sawmill built near there which did much towards supplying the settlers with lumber.

There was a flouring mill erected at the center at an early date, and there was also an establishment for wool carding and dressing cloth. The flouring mill was later run by steam and furnished considerable flour for the eastern market.

The first settlement made in this township was in the summer of 1817, by Peter Mead, Abraham Mead and Amos Reynolds. They made their beginning on the east line of the township. Early in the season of 1818 an addition was made by the arrival of the Palmer family. In 1819 a few more were added to the number of settlers by the arrivals of Gilbert Martin, W. W. Watros, Abijah Palmer and Charles Lyon. In 1820 came Jotham Curtiss, J. N. Pickard, Henry Pickard, Absalom Coleman and Hiram Curtiss.

Owing to the fact that most of the original owners of the township put up the price of their lands too high, the township did not fill up fast with settlers, until after 1830.

The first school in the township was taught in a little log building, a short distance south of the center. The building served the double purpose of school house and place of worship for many years.



PUBLIC SCHOOL FIRE DRILL, CHICAGO, OHIO

The first Sunday school in the township was held by Allen Johnson, at his house, in 1825, the pupils being Edward and Benjamin Green, Barnard Johnson, Louisa Johnson and Sarah Palmer. Mr. Johnson's assistants were Ebenezer Osborne and Zetta Green.

The people of Fitchville sought early to establish in their midst the institutions of religion and education to which they had been accustomed to in their eastern homes. There is, perhaps, not another example in the county of such an early establishment of a church after settlement. The pioneers entered the wilderness in 1817, and in the summer of 1819 the first church was organized.

In early times, Hartland, Fitchville and Greenwich, were grouped together, or attached for civil and judicial purposes. Hartland was detached about 1820, and connected with Clarksfield. Fitchville was detached, in 1828, from Greenwich and organized as a separate township.

The principal cemetery of Fitchville, which occupies the summit and slope of a gently rising hill, upon the Norwalk road, in the north part of Clinton incorporation, was laid out about 1826, or the following year. Alvah Palmer, who died in 1827, was the first person buried there, and Louisa Green the second.

A number of the first settlers made their homes upon the line of the north and south center road, and this was the first route of travel upon which any labor was bestowed in the township. The next was the road running east and west through the center. The road from Wooster to Norwalk was laid out in 1826, but there was scarcely any improvement made upon it until 1832, and it was by no means easy of travel. The route most traveled by the early residents of Fitchville, when they wished to go to Norwalk or beyond, was a trail which led from Abijah Palmer's, in a northwesterly direction, to a point about a mile west of Olena, and thence westerly to the old State road, which passes through the center of Fairfield and Bronson townships.

The enterprise of running a line of stages through from Wooster to Norwalk was undertaken at this time by Union White, J. C. Curtiss, and an Ashland man. They commenced by running a two-horse hack each way twice a week, but afterwards a four-horse stage coach was put on the route by a man named Myers, to whom was also given a contract for carrying the mail. In 1834, and for many years after, the people had the satisfaction of seeing this heavy stage, often well loaded with passengers, dash swiftly or wallow slowly, as the case might be, through the settlement.

Before the people of Fitchville had a postoffice of their own, they were obliged to go to Norwalk for their mail matter. About the year 1828 the first postoffice was established in the township, and Rundel Palmer commissioned as postmaster. He kept the office in his dwelling house.

The first tavern built in the township, was the Clinton House, which was named after the incorporated village of Clinton. It was built in 1833, by Hiram A. Curtiss. It was a frame building, of fair size, two stories in height. This was, for a number of years, the only place for the entertainment of the wayfarer and the stranger, and was well patronized. After Curtiss, Hiram Odell was, for a time, the landlord of this house, and he gave place to Union White and his brother, Daniel.

A few years after the building of the Clinton House, probably in 1837 or '38, Union and Daniel White, erected the large hotel since known as the Mansion House.

The Fountain House was built by Rundel Palmer for a dwelling house, but was converted into a hotel and conducted as such by his sons, Isaac and Nathan, for five years.

J. C. Curtiss built the next hotel, the present residence of his son, S. W. Curtiss, and was its proprietor for a number of years. This house was known as Washington Hall.

The first white child born in the township was Varney P., son of Peter and Alice Mead.

The first death was that of Deborah, wife of Abraham Mead. She died July 23, 1823. Another of this family, Mary Mead, died in November of the same year, aged seventeen.

Robert Golden and Rosannah Washburn, a sister of Joseph Washburn, were the first couple married.

The Meads built the first log house, and Ludovicus Robbins the first framed dwelling. The latter was about the year 1827, upon lot seventeen, section three.

In the fall of 1830, Union White came into the township, erected a small building, and opened a store, which was the first in the township. His stock was from the store of Buckingham & Sturgis of Norwalk, who had an interest in the business. In the spring of 1832, their interest was purchased by J. C. Curtiss, and the firm name became White & Curtiss. The first purchase of goods by this firm was in New York, and they were transported by the Hudson river, New York and Erie canal, and Lake Erie, to Huron, from which point they were hauled in wagons to Fitchville, at an expense of from three to four or five shillings per hundred weight. From New York city to Huron the transportation cost from one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars per hundred. The goods bought were of the kinds for which it was known there would be a ready market, such as staple groceries, and the commonest kinds of calico, sheeting, etc. Brown sheeting was sold at from twenty to twenty-five cents per yard; calico from two to four shillings, and satinete from six to four shillings. Iron was eight cents per pound; nails from nine to twelve cents; tea from ten to fourteen shillings; pepper, four shillings; coffee, two; loaf sugar from two to two and sixpence, and whiskey from four to five shillings per gallon. There being but little money in circulation these articles were very generally paid for in deer, coon and muskrat skins and black salts, which were made from ashes by almost every family. Messrs. White & Curtiss bought these salts in large quantities and manufactured them into pearlash, which they sent to the eastern market.

The first circuit preacher was Dennis Goddin. He formed the first class for the Methodist church at T. B. White's house.

The village of Clinton, within this township, was laid out in 1832, and for several years was the principal business place for the southeast part of the county, but railroads made great changes and Clinton is almost forgotten.

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Greenfield township was organized about the year 1815, and then embraced the townships of New Haven, Greenfield, Peru, Norwich and Fairfield, for township purposes, and continued so until each of the above townships contained a sufficient number of inhabitants for separate organization. In the year 1819, the name of this township was changed to Berlin, and continued by that name until 1822, when the name of Greenfield was restored. The reason for giving it the name of Berlin, was owing to there being a Greenfield township in Highland county, with a postoffice of the same name. At the restoration of the original name of the township, the postoffice was called Lafayette, and Joseph Cook was the first postmaster. The office continued to be called Lafayette until 1835, when the name was changed to Steuben.

The surface of the township is generally undulating. The Huron river enters it about a mile west of the southeast corner, runs a winding, but, generally, northwest course through the township, and leaves it a little less than a mile east of the northwest corner. There are several small tributaries, the largest of which is the west branch, which drains the western part of the town.

The original varieties of timber, east of the river, were principally white wood, black walnut, beech and maple, with some white oak, butternut and basswood. West of the river, white and black oak, hickory, beech and maple were the leading varieties. The soil is a loam of a sandy or gravelly nature, east of the river, and a clay loam west of it.

There is a stone quarry on the east bank of Huron river. It was first opened by Ezra Smith, at an early date. The quarry underlies a considerable tract of land, with a dip to the southeast, extending into Fairfield township, and is sandstone of the newer formation. The stone varies from an inch to twelve inches in thickness, and is largely used for building and flagging.

The history of Greenfield has for several reasons a peculiar interest. The time that has passed since the pioneer first walked into the wilderness by the side of the Huron river is almost four score and ten years. Strange and startling scenes have been enacted upon its brink, before and since then. The first person that came into the township of Greenfield, for the purpose of settlement, was William McKelvey, Jr., who arrived from Trumbull county in the year 1810. He purchased one hundred and six acres of land of Caleb Palmer, of New Haven township, on lot number twenty-five, in the second section of this township, paying for it in work. In 1811, he cleared eleven and a half acres and sowed it to wheat. He had harvested his crop and was putting it in stacks when the news of Hull's surrender reached the settlement. He immediately returned to Trumbull county, where his father and the rest of the family were then living, and joined the army as a volunteer for six months. In the spring of 1814 he returned to Greenfield, bringing, with a four-horse team and wagon, his brother-in-law, Truman Gilbert, and his family. His wheat had been burned during his absence, evidently by the Indians. The loss was considerable, as breadstuffs were then high. He afterwards bought fifteen bushels of the wheat left in stack by Erastus Smith, on his flight to Trumbull county, for which he paid forty-five dollars, threshing it himself.

The township records prior to the year 1828 have been lost, and the following facts relative to the first election for township officers were furnished by one who was present.

The election was held at the house of Erastus Smith in the spring of 1816. Joseph Cook was elected township clerk; Eli Halladay, Bildad Adams and Nathan Warner, trustees; William McKelvey, constable; Erastus Smith, justice of the peace. Having no use for a treasurer none was elected.

According to the "enumeration of the white male inhabitants of Greenfield above the age of twenty-one years," as returned to the county clerk by Seba Mather, lister, for the year 1819, the number of such inhabitants was one hundred and thirty. Peru was then attached to Greenfield, and is included in the enumeration.

Hanson Read built the first house in Greenfield in the spring of 1811.

Franklin Read, son of Hanson and Elizabeth Read, was the first white child born in this township. The date was April 25, 1812.

The first marriage was that of William Smith to Miss Lovina Pierce, daughter of Alden Pierce, in 1817. Erastus Smith, justice of the peace, performed the ceremony.

The first purchasers of the land derived their titles to their farms, in the first and fourth sections, from Isaac Mills, of Connecticut; in the second section from Abecham D. Baldwin and Walter Bradley, of Connecticut, and Tilley Lynd, of Homer, New York.

The township of Greenfield was surveyed by Caleb Palmer, of Trumbull county, assisted by Cyrus W. Marsh and B. Newcomb, in the year 1811, and before the war with Great Britain.

As stated before, the first house in the township was built by Hanson Reed, in the spring of 1811. This was on section four. The second house was built by Erastus Smith, in November of the same year. The above two families and their hired men, C. W. Marsh and Jacob Rush, were the only white settlers in the township at the time of Hull's surrender. A little later came William McKelvey and his son and son-in-law, Truman Gilbert, came to the township without their families, cleared a few acres and sowed wheat, but did not bring their families until later.

The surrender of Hull exposed the whole northwest to the ravages of the enemy. The frontier settlers had to abandon their homes, or run the risk of being massacred by the savages. The first settlers of this township chose the former, and did not return until peace was assured.

The first death in the township was that of an infant son of Samuel C. and Nancy Spencer, in the spring of 1816. The child was buried on the farm.

Ruth, daughter of David Lovell, was the first person buried in the cemetery at Greenfield Center. Her death occurred February 17, 1818, at the age of nearly fourteen.

Dr. Moses C. Sanders, of the township of Peru, was one of the earliest physicians that practiced in this township. The first resident physician was Dr. Henry Niles, who began the practice of medicine in this township in the spring of 1831.

The first religious meeting in the township was held at the cabin of Erastus Smith, on the first Sabbath in the spring of 1815, on which occasion the Rev.

Green Parker, from near Milan, officiated. A church organization was not effected until the year 1822.

In the winter of 1814-15, Hanson Read and Abram Powers built a grist mill on Huron river, in the first section, near where the Phoenix Mills now stand. This was undoubtedly the first grist mill erected in the county as now constituted. The character of the establishment was in keeping with those simple times.

The first sawmill was built in 1819, by Josiah Root, on Huron river. The next was built by Hiram C. Spencer, east of the center of town, on the river, a short distance below the bridge. It was built about the year 1827 or 1828, and did a large business. A few years after, Archibald Easter erected a sawmill, and at about the same time one was built by Dan Lindsey on the west branch of the river.

It is impossible for the young people of the present day to understand the conditions of living in the new settlement. The first settlers in Greenfield were among the first in the county, and they were completely isolated from all the appliances of civilization. The nearest mill, at which grinding was done, was at Owl Creek, a great many miles distant, through an unbroken forest. The grain was ground in the order of its reception at the mill, and sometimes several days would be consumed in going to mill and back. It was customary for one person to take the milling of the entire neighborhood, when going with a team. While there are no instances of suffering from want of necessary food, in the history of this township, provisions were by no means plenty. Wheat was at one time three dollars per bushel, and other articles of food in proportion. William McKelvey on one occasion went to Owl Creek to buy some pork, and could only find some of the "shack" variety, for which he paid forty-four cents per pound. The meat was a poor substitute for that of the domestic hog, being spongy and of ill flavor. For fresh meat the early settlers had venison and other wild game so plenty at times as to become a drug.

In the matter of necessary clothing, the pioneers experienced a greater difficulty. The families, in general, came well furnished with wearing apparel, but a year or two of wear and tear in the woods sadly diminished their stock. Flax could be raised, and summer clothing of tow, butternut-dyed, and bleached linen could be manufactured when a weaver could be found to do it; for, although every woman was a spinner, only here and there was one weaver, and each family had to await its turn. The old garments were often worn to rags before the new cloth could be put through the loom.

To obtain the material for winter clothing was still more difficult. The introduction of sheep was attended with much difficulty. They were not safe from wolves, and the new, wet lands proved unhealthy to them. The summer clothing would often have to answer for winter wear, or other expedients be resorted to. Buckskin, either wholly or in part, frequently served as material for winter apparel, but garments made entirely of it were never popular. The pantaloons would frequently be wet to the knees, and when dry would be as stiff and uncomfortable as if made of tin.

The center of the township is two hundred and ninety feet above the lake and the surface of most of the township is covered with irregular, undulating hills of gravel and drift. So many years have now elapsed since the settlement of Greenfield, where our pioneers cleared away the forests, tilled the soil and at

last left all to their children and children's children, where today they live in luxury and peace on the farms that are dotted with fine homes attended with prosperity and happiness.

Mr. Seba Mather opened the first public house in the township in the year 1816 which he kept until 1820, when he discontinued and established the mills east of Steuben and carried on an extensive business for thirty years when he retired to his farm and spent the remainder of his life and died at the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

The first church in the township was built by the Congregationalists in 1832. It has since been greatly improved. The church is in Steuben.

The Freewill Baptist church was erected in the year 1843. This church is at present without a pastor.

Mr. Seba Mather erected the first frame building in the township in 1820.

But now, where once were no sounds but those of nature, there has come the hum of industry, the bustling of trade, a hurrying to and fro, the greetings of man with man, the activity impelled by varied human interests, men who were babes when the country was new, grew old and went down to their graves. In the midst of change only the Huron river went on unchanged.

The Steuben cemetery has been greatly improved during the past year. It has been thoroughly graded and leveled, gravel walks and roads have been made through the entire grounds, also an addition of several acres has been added and laid out into lots and numbered.

Steuben has at present two telephone stations. Many farmers through the townships also have the lines in their residences and would not do without them.

We have an electric railway which has been built within the past year, and has increased the value of land in the township from ten to fifteen dollars per acre.

Much might be said by way of improved machinery of all kinds, the bountiful crops, the health of the township, good prices for all kinds of produce which we are blessed with at the present time.

GREENWICH TOWNSHIP.

Greenwich township received its name from Greenwich, Fairfield county, Connecticut, where most of the original owners of the land resided. It is known as township number one, range twenty-one.

Its surface is moderately undulating, without marshes of any great extent, and those that did exist were easily drained. The soil is mostly a clayey loam, mixed in places with gravel and sand along the streams.

Butternut, black walnut and sycamore are abundant along the streams. Black walnut is also found on the uplands. In general, the land of the township may be considered of the beech and maple grade—beech being predominant. White oaks are more abundant in the first and fourth sections than elsewhere. In the second and third sections there has been a new growth of timber since the tornado which passed over that part of the township in pioneer times and tore down all the original growth.

It is bounded upon the north by Fitchville; east by Ruggles, Ashland county; south by Ashland and Richland counties; and west by Ripley. Its surface is low and quite level for the most part, though, in some places, it is slightly uneven. The principal streams are the east and west branches of the Vermillion river. The former flows through the northeast corner of the township; the latter, formed by the union of the two streams, enters upon the south line, and thence flows north into Ripley. It again enters the township near the intersection of the east and west center and the Ripley town line road, and from thence flows northerly and diagonally across the third section, and, receiving the added volume of water from a number of small streams that drain a large portion of the township, becomes, by the time it reaches the north line, a water-course of considerable size.

The first school was taught by James Nixon, who, with his father, Robert Nixon, left Ireland at the time of the Irish revolution, and chose America as the country in which to begin life anew, and drifted, by some chance, to this locality. The school was held in an abandoned log house, one mile south of the center, in the winter of 1820-21. About 1825, a school house was built at the center, and Tracey Case was the first teacher who occupied it. The second school house was built by James Mitchell's, near the center of section four. Willis R. Smith, assisted by his wife, gave instruction in writing to a number of young men (some of them married), in the winter of 1824-25. About a dozen men attended this school. It was held evenings, in Mr. Smith's house, which he fitted up for the purpose, with writing desks made of slabs, which were fastened to the wall as sloping shelves.

But little was done in road-making in this township until 1820. The north and south center road was the first laid out. The line was established in 1820 but only a small portion of it had been chopped and cleared half a dozen years later. The east and west center road was the second one laid out. It was surveyed and opened through the county. What is known as the "angling road" was ordered to be laid out in answer to the petition of Ephraim Baker and others in 1828 or 1829.

The first mail was carried through the township in 1829, and for three years thereafter, by Robert Inscho, of New Haven. He went once a week between New Haven village and Medina county, upon horseback. The first postoffice was established at the center, and Benjamin Kniffin was the first man who held the commission of postmaster.

Greenwich was attached, in 1815, to New Haven, or was within the jurisdiction of that township (for civil purposes). In 1819, Greenwich, Fitchville and Hartland were united, and an election was held in that year, at the house of Thomas B. White, for the purpose of choosing officers for the territory included within the three. Hartland was detached in 1820, and in 1823, Greenwich was separated from Fitchville and organized as a separate township, the first election being held at Thomas B. White's house, and the following officers elected: Jeremiah Rusco, Henry Washburne, trustees; David W. Briggs, clerk; Varney Pearce, justice of the peace; Ephraim F. Barker, constable.

Adna Carpenter, son of Henry Carpenter, was the first white child born in the township.

Henry Carpenter, father of the first born, was the first person who died in the township. His death, caused by over exertion, occurred in November, 1818. He was buried in a coffin constructed of hewed black walnut planks. Hannah Barker was the second person whose demise the little band of pioneers were called to mourn. The coffin, in which her remains were buried, was made from the boards of a wagon-box, which were rudely stained with logwood.

The first marriage in the township, was that of David W. Briggs and Alzina, daughter of E. F. and Hannah Barker. They were made one by Squire Rundel Palmer, of Fitchville, in August, 1819. Briggs died in 1861.

The first log cabin was built in 1817, near the northeast corner of the township. Henry Carpenter built the first permanent residence, a log house, a little later in the same year. The first frame house was built by Joseph Washburne, in 1827, on lot twenty-seven, section two, and the first brick house was erected at the center, by Cyrus G. Mead.

The first tavern was built at the center by Benjamin Kniffin, who also had a store there. The store opened by Ezra Smith, near Joseph Washburne's, in the northeast corner of the township, in the year 1824, was the first.

For a number of years after the first settlers came into Greenwich, there was no regularly ordained minister living in the township, and when there was preaching, it was by some of the ministers from neighboring townships. Religious meetings were held frequently, and preachers of all denominations had assurance when they came here that they would be met by audiences of large size (for these times) and gladly listened to. The township had a large element of Quaker population, and many of its earliest pioneers were of this people. The first Quakers, or Friends, came to Greenwich in 1818, just eighteen years after the first Friends' settlement in Ohio.

The first settler in Greenwich was Henry Carpenter, who came from Ulster county, New York, in 1817, and located upon lot twenty-two, in section two. He died in the fall of the following year, from over exertion at a house raising, leaving a wife and four children.

The trials of those men and women who turned their backs upon the places of their nativity, and sought to hew them out homes in the wilderness, cannot be fully appreciated at the present day. Many of them had but little to begin with. Those who had much were scarcely better off, for the comforts and conveniences of life were not procurable. The early settlers, of whom we shall treat presently, after succeeding, through almost infinite trouble, in clearing a few acres of ground and raising a small crop of wheat or other grain, were far from being in a condition to defy want. They had still to procure articles which were equally necessary. If the weather had been dry for some time, they were obliged to go to Cold creek to have their grain ground, and the trip there and back, about seventy-five miles, occupied eight or ten days. Two yoke of oxen were required. The price of carrying a bushel of wheat was fifty cents. Money, it was almost impossible to get in sums sufficient to pay taxes, or buy those few articles which are indispensable to the family or individual. Daniel Fancher relates that he worked three years, and did not receive, during that time, three shillings in money, but took grain, flour, meat, and other articles, which, in the early days of the settlement, were regarded almost as legal tender. Henry Washburne once took a large load of wheat to



HURON RIVER VIEW, MONROEVILLE

Sandusky, consuming a week in making the round trip, and exchanged it for one barrel of salt, six milk pans, two pounds of tea, and the cloth for two shirts. With these few articles, which would seem but poorly to pay for the grain, and the time spent in getting to the market, he returned, feeling very well satisfied. He had done fully as well in his barter as others were able to do. Many of the settlers really suffered for the want of those things which a few shillings would have bought. Luxuries were unthought of. The unceasing and hard grind of daily labor was necessary to accomplish the task that lay before the pioneers—the maintenance of life and the development of the new country, which they so subdued as to make a rich inheritance for their children. And yet, with all their hard labor, with the severe simplicity of their lives, with hardships and privations unnumbered and unrecorded, the lives spent in the fulfillment of duty were made up more largely of pleasure than of pain, were fuller of joy than sorrow, and as they drew to a close, there was the profound satisfaction in every honest, toiling pioneer's heart, of having accomplished a great and tangible good.

Although the forest abounded in game, the Indians, it is supposed, did not come here with the intention of following the hunt, but the locality was a favorite one for maple sugar making, and they frequently pursued this calling, the nearest approach to anything like an active, industrial occupation that ever received their attention. The Indians had temporary camping places in various parts of what is now Greenwich, where they resorted in the spring and remained until the flow of sap, in the sugar maples, had ceased. They made troughs to receive the sap from the bark of beech trees, and evaporated it in small kettles, most of the labor being performed by the squaws. Farther east, in the Black river vicinity, were the favorite hunting grounds of the red-men who belonged to the great tribe, a portion of which made its headquarters around Upper Sandusky. They journeyed every year to these hunting grounds, and the paths they trod were visible only a few years since, in the northern part of this township. As they always followed the same trail, and invariably passed in single file, a depression of the earth was caused, which was very easily noticeable.

In the early settlement of the township all kinds of game was abundant. Deer were so numerous that they were frequently seen in droves of from a score to fifty. A good hunter like David W. Briggs would kill as many as eight or ten a day when lucky, and in the season would bring down three or four hundred. Briggs kept the settlers pretty well supplied with venison, and it was not an uncommon thing for him to have half a dozen or more frozen carcasses hanging outside of his house at once. He was hired by Mr. Beach, a pioneer of Ruggles, one time to do a day's shooting, Beach having a number of men at work for him and nothing in the house for them to eat. Briggs was to report for duty at Beach's house before breakfast, and to have two dollars for his day's hunting. He arrived there as he had agreed to, and told his employer that he had killed two deer on the way over, giving directions for finding the carcasses in the woods. Beach told him he might call it a day's work and quit, which he did, thus earning two dollars before breakfast, by doing what any sportsman would travel a hundred miles to do now-a-days.

As late as 1853, when John M. Carl came into the township, deer were so numerous that he was able on some occasions, to kill two, or even three, in a day

Briggs at this time had given up hunting because, as he said, "game had grown so scarce." Beside deer, there were all the varieties of small game common to a new country. Wolves were a great source of annoyance. They committed numerous depredations, some of them quite boldly.

GREENWICH.

Greenwich was incorporated as a village in 1879. It is fifty-five miles southwest of Cleveland. The village has never had a rapid growth because the land was held by a man who was adverse to the town. It has had almost its entire growth since 1874, and in that time has increased from a small cluster of houses to a village of importance and the leading place for the shipment of cattle in that part of the western reserve. It is a station of note on what is known as the Big Four railroad. The village is surrounded by a rich country and has within its limits the elements of enterprise, and will doubtless achieve in the future greater importance as a trading place and shipping point.

HARTLAND TOWNSHIP.

Hartland township was originally called Canterbury. It was attached to Clarksfield until 1826; at which time it was organized into a separate township and received the name of Hartland.

The first election held in the township was in the school house on the Ridge in April, 1826.

The surface of the township is generally level, though less so in the south and east parts than elsewhere. The soil is a clay loam, modified by gravel and sand along the streams and on the Hartland ridge, which runs a general north and south direction through the second section. There were formerly a number of swamps or marshes in the township, the largest of which were known as Canterbury swamp, Cranberry marsh, Grape swamp and Bear swamp. The first was over two miles in length, varying in width from fifty to one hundred and fifty rods, and lay south east of the center. Cranberry marsh lay north of the center, and contained about one hundred acres. These formerly unsightly places have been more or less reclaimed, and the soil, which is a deep black muck, is the best in the township.

The principal native varieties of timber were white wood, white, black and burr oak, white and black ash, black walnut, hickory, birch and maple.

The Vermillion river runs through the southeast quarter of the township, and adds a pleasing element to the landscape. Indian creek has its source in the southwest part and flows into the Vermillion near the east town line. Brandy creek, which is said to have derived its name from the peculiar color of the water, rises near the center of the township, flows through the northeast part of the township and across the northwest corner of Clarksfield, uniting with the Vermillion a short distance west of the center of Wakeman township.

NATIVE ANIMALS.

The animals of the forest were the bear, deer, wolf, wild cat, gray fox and other species of less importance. Bears were not numerous and seldom seen.

They seem to have collected more generally in the marshes of Ripley, where they were frequently killed. Deer were very plenty.

The first white child born in the township, was a child of Jared Tolls, in 1818.

The first couple married was Elijah Bills and Mary Howard, daughter of Captain William Howard. This event occurred June 2, 1822, at the residence of the bride's parents,—John Beatty, Esq., performing the nuptial ceremony.

The first death was that of Jared Tolls, who died in the fall of 1818. He was buried on his farm, in a coffin made out of Daniel Bills' wagon-box, as there was no lumber to be had. A small apple tree sprout was planted at the head of the grave, which grew to be a large tree, but it has been removed, and the exact location of the grave is now unknown. The early settlers sometimes experienced a great deal of difficulty in getting their grinding done. There were grist mills in some of the adjacent townships, but they were at rest much of the time in consequence of dry weather, and at such times trips to Cold creek, and occasionally even to Mansfield, sixty miles distant, and through almost unbroken forests, were necessary to get grinding done. Families whose supply of flour would be exhausted before the return of the grist from the mill, would enjoy a week's variety of pounded wheat or "jointed corn."

The first school house was built in the fall of 1821, on the ground that is now occupied by the Ridge burying ground. The size of the house was sixteen by twenty feet, with puncheon floor. The door, seats and writing desks were also made of puncheons, and greased paper served as glass for the windows.

The first school was kept by Cyrus Munger, in the winter of 1821-22. The families of Josiah Kilbourn, William Howard, Daniel Bills, Joseph Osyor, Nathan Miner and Samuel White were represented in the school.

In April, 1826, the township was erected by the trustees into one school district, called district number one. The following were at that time householders of the district: Josiah Kilbourn, William Howard, Daniel Miner, Elijah Bills, Samuel White, Jesse Taintor, Nathan Miner, Sylvester Waldron, Libeus Stoors, Allen Mead, Eli Barnum and Henry Pickard.

In 1833 the first post office was established in Hartland, with Daniel Miner as postmaster, who kept the office in his house, on the ridge, for a period of twenty-one years.

The first sermon preached in Hartland was by the Rev. Lot B. Sullivan, a Congregational home missionary. The first regular religious services were held at the house of Joseph Waldron, in the summer and fall of 1821, at which the Revs. True Pattee and James McIntyre, Methodist circuit preachers, officiated.

After the school house was built, on the ridge, in the fall of 1821, the meetings were held there. There was at this time but one Methodist family in the township. In 1824, a few Free Will Baptist families moved into the township, among which was that of Allen Mead, a preacher of that denomination. They soon after began to hold meetings, and, under the preaching of Mead, Elder Wheeler of Greenfield, and Rev. Mr. Carlton, quite a revival followed, resulting in the organization of a church in Clarksfield, with which the Baptists in Hartland united.

The first sawmill in the township was built by Judah Ransom, on Indian creek, in the spring of 1826. There were other saw mills erected later. The Chaffee mill, in the third section; the Miles mill, at the center, and the Thomas mill at Olena.

LYME TOWNSHIP.

Lyme township was originally embraced in the present township of Groton, in Erie county, and was called "Wheatsborough," after Mr. Wheat, who owned a large tract of land in it. It was afterwards organized by itself, and called Lyme; many of its first settlers having emigrated from a town of that name in Connecticut.

The general aspect of the township is level prairie, interspersed with ridges, covered with groves of young oaks and hickories. In many places on the prairie cottonwood trees have sprung up. The west part of the township was formerly covered by a heavy growth of oak timber. The soil of the prairies is generally a mixture of black muck and sand, while gravel and clay abound on the timber part.

Quarries of lime stone have been opened in the west part of the township, which supplies stone for building and making lime. A common kind of stone is found in the center for building purposes.

Pipe and Pike creeks arise in the township, which run northward into Groton. Stull brook originates in Sherman and runs a northeasterly course through the township and enters Huron river at Ridgefield. A large creek which arises in Seneca county crosses the south part of this township and enters the Huron river south of Monroeville.

Deer used to roam over the prairies, affording fine sport for the Indians and other hunters, to chase in the fall of the year after the prairies had been burned over, which was done every year. Wolves and bears sometimes troubled the sheep.

The history of the settlement of the west is of constantly recurring interest. The enterprise, intrepidity and self-denial of the pioneers who left the comforts and privileges of their eastern homes and came to the Firelands, then a far-off region, associated in the minds of civilized people with savage wild beasts and Indians, must always command our highest respect and admiration. They endured hardships and privations without number, not for their own advantages merely—for they well knew that old age would steal upon them long before they should enjoy the fruits of their toil—but for their children and their children's children, that to them they might leave a goodly heritage. The most of those truly, but unconsciously, heroic men and women, have long rested from their labors, but the good they accomplished remains, the blessings they secured and transmitted endure, and are now the precious legacy of a happy, prosperous and intelligent posterity.

Scattering settlements had been made in all the townships along the lake shore prior to the war of 1812; but the surrender of Detroit by General Hull, exposed that portion of country to the ravages of the enemy, that a general exodus of the settlers, southward, followed, and it remained almost entirely denuded of inhabitants until the signal victories, on both land and water, of the

forces of the United States, rendered it safe for the former residents to return to their abandoned and, in many cases, ruined homes.

The early settlement of Lyme, like that of most of her sister townships, was never very rapid. Much of the land was owned by minor heirs, and entangled with unsettled estates; more had been bought up by speculators and held by them at either so high a figure as to greatly retard immigration, or not offered for sale at all; and besides all this, government land adjoining, so soon as it came into market, could be had for less than half the price generally at which the Firelands' tracts were held.

The first settler was Conrad Hawks, who penetrated the thick woods of Lyme in the year 1808. His location was in the northeast corner of the township on the farm afterwards so long occupied by John F. Adams.

The first building erected was the log dwelling of Conrad Hawks, built in 1808. The first frame house was erected by Colonel Nathan Strong, in the year 1817, on the Bemiss place. The first brick dwellings were those of John F. Adams and Horatio Long, built in 1827.

The first settlement at Hunt's Corners was made in the southeast part by several families named Sutton, and the locality has since been known as the "Sutton Settlement," or Hunt's Corners. Levi Sutton, a native of Virginia, bargained for the Moses Warren tract, consisting of eleven hundred and ten acres, for one thousand dollars, and came on and took possession in the fall of 1811.

In 1818, Asaph, Erastus and Israel Cook came with their father, who settled at Cook's corners near the eastern line of Lyme. They built a large treading mill and dry house for dressing and cleaning hemp without rotting. This business excited considerable interest and was expected to prove profitable to the owners and the community.

The first saw mill was built in the south part of the township on Frink run by Levi Sutton, in 1814 or 1815. Another saw mill was built about 1830, on a creek which drains the prairies in the west part of the township in Bellevue. It was afterwards used for a brewery.

A tannery was built about 1827, by Horatio Long, on a few acres of land purchased by him near the line of Abner Nims and Zadoc Strong. He carried on the business of tanning and shoemaking some ten or twelve years, when he discontinued the business and became a farmer.

John C. Kinney came to Lyme about 1828, and opened a blacksmith shop near the corner of lot twelve or thirteen.

Mary Ann Strong, daughter of Francis and Mary Curtis Strong, was the first child born in the township. The date of her birth was August 3, 1817. She became the wife of Isaac D. Collins in 1840, and died a short time afterwards. The pioneer nuptials were those of Burwell Fitch and Susan Hawks, celebrated in the winter of 1816 and 1817. They settled in Sherman township, where they resided until their death. The next marriage was that of Ira Bassett and Polly Hand, which took place in the spring of 1817.

The year 1834 will long be remembered as the one signalized by the first visit of that fearful scourge, the cholera, to this country. On the 20th of August, in that year, the wife of Mr. Sheffield was taken with that fearful disease, and

died in a few hours. The old family Bible contains a record of her death in his own hand writing. On the 22d he was himself taken with the same disease, and died just after midnight on the 23d.

NORWALK TOWNSHIP.

Norwalk township was incorporated by act of legislature, February 11, 1828. The following are the two first sections of the act of incorporation:

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That* so much of the township of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, as lies within the following boundaries, to-wit: Commencing at the southeast corner of the town plat of Norwalk, in the center of the road leading to Medina, running along the south side of the back alley as far as it extends, from thence in the same direction to the center of the road passing widow Tice's dwelling, a distance of two hundred and sixteen rods from the starting point; thence along the center of said road forty rods; thence northeastwardly and parallel with the first line to the center of the road passing Ebenezer Lane's dwelling to Milan, a distance of two hundred and sixteen rods; thence along the center of said road forty rods to the place of beginning, be and the same is hereby created a town corporate, and shall henceforth be known and distinguished by the name of the town of Norwalk.

Sec. 2. That it shall be lawful for the white male inhabitants of said town, having the qualifications of electors of members of the general assembly, to meet at some convenient place in said town, on the first Monday of May next, and the first Monday of May annually thereafter, and then and there proceed, by a plurality of votes, to elect by ballot one mayor, one recorder and five trustees, who shall have the qualifications of electors; and the persons so elected shall hold their office for one year, and until their successors shall be chosen and qualified, and they shall constitute the town council.

FIRST CORPORATION ELECTION.

The following is taken from the first pages of the first book of record of the corporation of Norwalk, and comprises the poll-book and tally sheet of the first election held as an incorporated village:

Poll-book of the election held in the town of Norwalk, in the county of Huron, and state of Ohio, this fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight. Joseph C. Curtiss, Benjamin Carmon and Wm. Gallup, judges, and Geo. T. Buckingham, clerk, of this election, were severally sworn as the law directs previous to their entering on the duties of their respective offices.

"Norwalk and Bronson were together as an election district from 1817 (the time of their first organization) to 1822. For a part of this time Fairfield was included in the same organization, making an election district five miles wide and fifteen miles long, the same being called Norwalk; and while so together, all the elections were held in the part called Norwalk proper."

The first election in Norwalk township was held at the house of Hanson Reed in April, 1817. Norwalk and Bronson were at this time organized as an election district.

Hanson Reed's house was situated on the east side of the road leading from near the water works to the Fairfield road, and about thirty rods from the latter road.

Soon after Hull's surrender at Detroit in August of 1812, Thomas, son of Abijah Comstock, was born on section two of Norwalk. When he was only a few days old, his parents had to flee from their home to escape the Indians, which they did just in time, taking him and their other valuables with them, for the night after their departure their house was burned. This was the first white child born in Norwalk.

The first death of which he has found any record, was that of Angeline Lewis. She was the daughter of Samuel B. and Amy Lewis; born at South Salem, Westchester county, New York, probably in the fall of 1814; was brought by her parents to Norwalk in the spring of 1815, and died September 1, 1817. She was probably the child stolen by two squaws, and rescued by her mother, of which an account is given in the history of Samuel B. Lewis.

In the spring or summer of 1815, Hanson Reed, then living in Greenfield, purchased of Samuel B. Lewis, the place upon which Mr. Lewis had erected a house the previous year.

He soon moved in with his family, and in 1816 or 1817, commenced building a sawmill on the creek which runs through the present L. B. Mesnard and S. J. Rogers farms, on the north side of the Fairfield road, and a few rods to the west of the stone bridge over that creek. In erecting this mill, he was assisted by his father-in-law, Mr. Abraham Powers. Soon after its completion, it was destroyed by fire. The two men then made a workshop of the house, and commenced work on the machinery of another mill, and in about five weeks had it completed, running and doing a good business, but when the fall rains came on, a freshet swept away their dam. They were now without funds, all having been put into building and re-building, but were not discouraged; the dam was soon replaced, and then they began to plan for a gristmill attachment to the sawmill, and carried their plans into execution in a year or two afterwards.

In 1806 Nathan S. Comstock, in company with several others, started on an exploring expedition to "spy out the country" where their new possessions lay. They spent some time in looking over the country, but not being provided with suitable maps or guides, were not certain they found the particular land they were in search of.

1809.—Early in the spring of this year, Nathan engaged the services of Darius Ferris and Elijah Hoyt to accompany him on a second expedition to Norwalk with the intention of making a permanent settlement. They started with a span of horses and wagon and such tools as would be necessary in clearing and building. At Buffalo they found it impracticable to proceed further with their wagon, so a small boat was purchased, into which their goods were packed, with the addition of a barrel of whisky. Two of them manned the boat, and proceeded up the lake, keeping near the shore, while the other took charge of the horses, and traveled overland, keeping near the lake. In this manner they reached the mouth of Huron river.

There were at that time quite a number of Indian settlements along that river, the largest of which was where the village of Milan now stands, and was

called Pequatting. They were Moravians, in charge of a missionary named Frederick Drake, and had a mission house. Being very friendly, they offered the new comers the use of their mission house until a structure could be erected to shelter them. A site was selected for the new house in section two, near a spring, and in the immediate neighborhood of the fine brick residence erected a few years ago by Philo Comstock, Esq., in section three of Norwalk. After cutting the logs, the few white men then in the country, were invited to assist in putting up the house.

This was the first house erected by white men, in the township of Norwalk, of which any record can be traced, and was, most probably, the pioneer house. It was not covered by a mansard roof; the windows were not set with crown-plate glass; the front door was not of carved walnut, nor mahogany; the back door did not exist; its floor was not covered with a brussels carpet; there was no piano and no sewing machine within its walls; upon the marble-topped center table (which was not there) lay no daily morning paper containing the latest telegraph news and the last time card of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad, nor even that of the Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad company. In fact, it was no palatial residence, but rough and strong, and made for service like the strong-willed, iron-handed men who built it. Its roof was made of "shakes;" its walls of rough logs; its floor was the face of mother-earth, carpeted with the moss of the growth of ages; the bedsteads were "bunks" with poles for springs, and their mattresses were sacks filled with leaves and mosses; its cooking range was a brass kettle hung on a pole-supported by two crotched sticks driven into the floor, and its chimney was a hole left open in the roof. Rough, uncouth, homely, yet it was a *home*,—the first home of Norwalk.

The house having been erected, they next commenced a clearing of about ten acres which they completed, in a manner, and sowed to wheat that fall.

NEW LONDON TOWNSHIP.

New London township was settled prior to any township adjacent, and the first settlement was within what is now the village. The first settlers were Abner Green, wife and three daughters, in the month of February, 1815, and located on lot number ten, third section. Here Mr. Green erected the *first* log house—a small cabin—using basswood bark as covering or roofing. His furniture, or rather cooking apparatus, and farming tools and implements were few and very simple. History tells us they were conveyed on his back in a box or "*chest captured from General Proctor.*" Green was born in the state of Vermont at a day sufficiently early for him to be a revolutionary soldier, though the date of his birth is unknown—probably, about 1758. He served also during the war of 1812 as sergeant.

Mr. Green cleared some two or three acres of ground in 1815, and raised the first crop of corn in the township, and the historian is informed he had a good crop, cultivated by the use of the ax and the hoe. He was noted as an honest, industrious, patriotic, and religious person, often holding religious meetings, and the *then* boys say he did good preaching. He also erected a cabin and lived for a few years on lot number twenty-four, second section. Thence in 1823 he moved to the

southern part of Ohio, and died about 1826, from, as is supposed, the effect of a wound received in the battle of Fort Malden, under General William H. Harrison.

The township of New London was organized in 1817, and the first election was held at the house of Mr. William Sweet, on the first Monday in April. William Sweet, Isaac P. Case and Solomon Hubbard were trustees; Sherman Smith was township clerk; Hosea Townsend and B. Crampton were appraisers; Philo T. Porter was constable, and H. Townsend acted as lister. The early records of the township were burned, with all the furniture in the house, at the time Sherman Smith and brother's house was burned, in 1818 or '19, and the want of any record compels us to say we do not know who was elected in the spring of 1818. It is conceded there was no fall election in 1817. The first state election was held in 1818, and the poll book shows *twenty votes*, which at the ratio now given for boys, girls, and women (and many of the early pioneers had large families of boys and girls) would give the town somewhere from sixty to one hundred inhabitants.

The township very naturally took the name of *New London* from the fact that N. Douglass, N. Richards, and the Ledyards, were the principal, or largest original proprietors, or sufferers; and they resided in New London, Connecticut. The name of the township has never been changed since its first settlement.

The settlement of this township was delayed by the war of 1812-15, and again from the disputes of *title* from 1820 to '25, which will be more fully noticed hereafter, it being the cause of the *greatest law suit* ever affecting the settlers on the Firelands.

The surface of the township is generally level, though, in many portions in the vicinity of the water courses, it is quite rolling, and other portions may be classed as gently undulating. It was originally, with the exception of a small portion in the fourth section, known as the cranberry marsh, all densely covered by timber. The principal varieties of wood were black walnut; elm of several varieties—rock, red and white; maple—hard and soft; beech; oak—white, yellow and black; basswood, whitewood, hickory, white and black ash, cherry, dogwood and willow. There has been no particular change in the forest, except the almost entire disappearance, by use. The soil is very productive—well adapted to grass, small grains, corn, vegetables and berries—clayey, or marl, with a slight preponderance of the clay, and, in the third section, sandy; while rich, deep muck, is abundant in the fourth section. It is about equally well adapted to the dairy products, hay, grain or stock raising. Fruits of several kinds and varieties do well. In short, for fertility and productiveness, very few, if any town on the Firelands, can surpass this. At an early day in the settlement of the township, quite a large portion of the third and fourth sections were deemed as low land and swampy; now, all or nearly all is drained and is tillable.

The streams running through the town are two. One running northwardly through the fourth and third sections, is formed by Skellenger's creek, Knowlton's creek and Carpenter's creek, uniting with the Vermillion river in the township of Clarksfield, as its east branch; and Rawson's creek, uniting with other small streams and making East creek, a west branch of Black river. The various creeks and streams are fed by many springs, which render this section of the county quite well watered.

The first road opened was the Read, a military road from the south side of the county to the lake on the west line of New London, in 1812. The second road was for the passage of the army of General Wm. H. Harrison's division, 1814, through the northeast corner of the township. The first road made by the pioneers was what is known as the Clarksfield road to Ruggles, commenced 1816.

The first mail matter was obtained at Huron, Judge Jabez Wright, postmaster, Dr. Richard P. Christopher keeping the office for the Judge. The next was obtained at Norwalk. The first mail route was from Tiffin to New London—a man in southern Ohio taking the contract for carrying the mail, but mistaking New London for London in the central part of the state, he gave up his contract, and it was then carried by Squire Palmer, of Fitchville, from Fitchville to Tiffin and back, once a week; and by Tracy Case and Hosea Townsend from Fitchville to the office of I. P. Case, postmaster, for the revenue of the office. This was under J. Q. Adams' administration. Under Jackson's administration Peter Kinsley officiated as postmaster at "Kinsley Corners," or Merrifield's Settlement. The first route through the township was from Florence to Uniontown, or Ashland.

The first religious organization was in the log school house where Miss Sophia Case was teaching; organized by Mr. James Haney, in 1816, a Methodist from Savannah (then known as Haneytown). Mr. Haney had about thirty listeners. Probably this was the first class, and from which, as a nucleus, the Methodist church sprang.

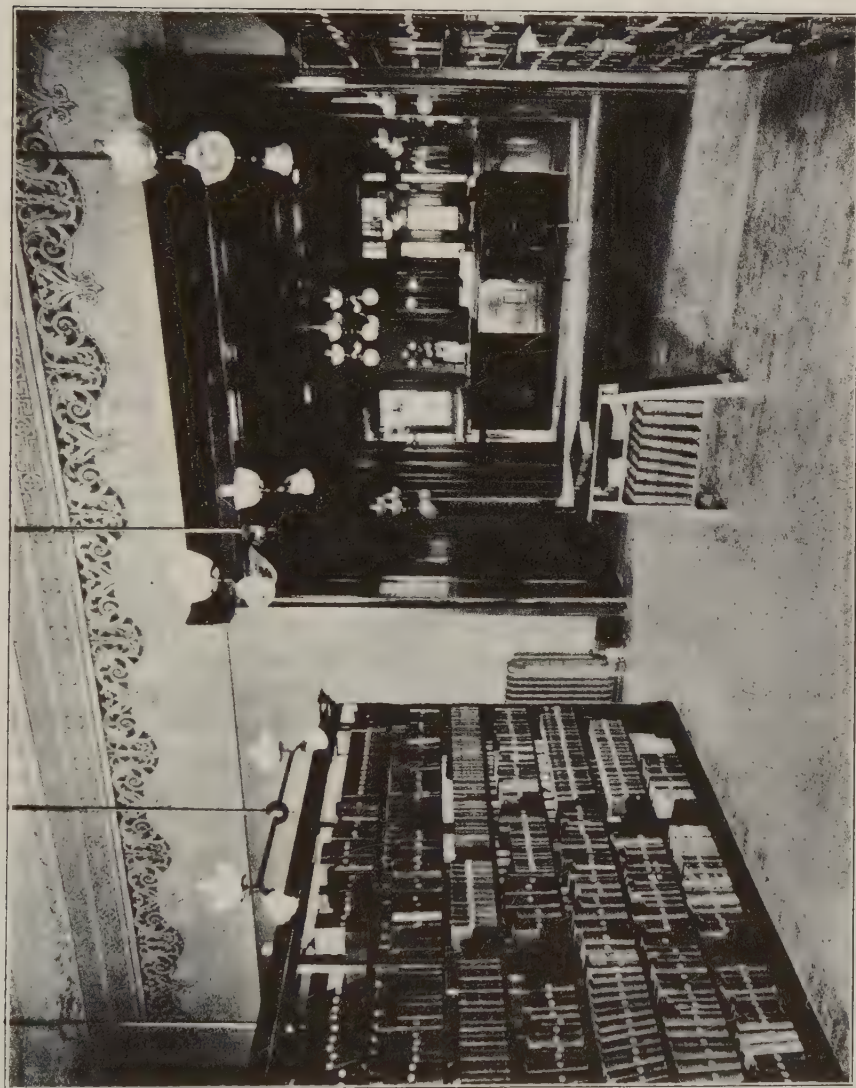
The first birth occurred on the 29th day of February, 1816. Unto John Hendryx's wife was born a son.

The first adult death was that of Mrs. Francis Keyes, who died of consumption in May, 1819, and was buried on their own lot, near John King's orchard. Mrs. Polly Day, daughter of John Corry and wife of John Day, died in the autumn of 1820, and was buried on her father's farm, being the first buried in the village cemetery.

The first house erected was by Abner Green, on lot number ten, third section, February, 1815, and the first frame house by Hosea Townsend on lot number twenty-three, third section. The first frame barn was built by I. P. Case, and the first log store (a building twenty-four by thirty-six) in 1819, on his place. The first frame store was William C. Spaulding's, on lot number seven, third section. The first boy born in a frame house in the town was Ira Townsend.

The first corn was raised by Abner Green, and the first wheat carried to mill was by Hosea Townsend, to Uniontown, now Ashland. The first flour and meal was obtained at Florence.

The first manufacturer of boots and shoes was I. P. Case, in 1815. The first black salts or potash was made by Josiah Day and his father, Dr. Samuel Day. The first orchards from the seeds were planted by H. Townsend, William Sweet, John Corry, and Francis Keyes, in 1820 and '22. The first grist mill was put up by Captain William Blackman in 1826, and was a small concern—two sand-stones turned by hand. The first brick building was erected in the fall of 1865 and in the summer of 1866. Was used by Thomas Smith as a cellar. The Masonic hall was built the following year. The first brick store was built by C. W. Gregory in the village in 1866.



VIEW FROM STACK ROOM, PUBLIC LIBRARY, NORWALK

The first school house was in the third section, on lot number thirteen, in 1816, and Miss Sophia Case, daughter of I. P. Case, was the first teacher, and had fifteen scholars. The first school house in the fourth section, or in the village, was on lot two, a little north of B. B. Mead's residence, and Peter Kinsley taught the first school in 1818; he had about twenty pupils.

When the first white men settled in New London, the black bears and wolves were the most formidable; deer, raccoon, otter, sable and gray fox, wild turkeys, beaver, wild cat, hedgehog and fishers, or pekans, abounded to a limited extent. The deer and wild turkeys became far more abundant about 1822 evidently coming into the town from the east; and the wolves appeared to follow the deer.

There were Indian camping grounds on farms in the second section, but no villages. The hunters of the Delaware and Wyandot nations frequented their old grounds for a few years after the white man came.

The first physician was Dr. Samuel Day in the second section in 1817 or 1818. He was a botanic, and did some practice by the use of indigenous plants and herbs. He died December 31, 1839.

NEW HAVEN TOWNSHIP.

New Haven township was so named after New Haven, Connecticut, from the fact that nearly all the early settlers were from that state, and one of the principal land owners, who inherited or purchased a large portion of the land in the township from the original grantees of soil, lived in New Haven, Connecticut.

It is mostly a level township, but in some places rolling. The soil in the southwestern part is a black sandy loam; in the north and eastern part it is more of a clay soil, or clay mixed with sand. There is a stone quarry in the southern part from which large amounts of stone have been taken for building purposes, but was more suited for flagging or foundations than for block work. But it was an important addition and convenience to the settlers of the township, for it furnished building material for far and near.

The principal water course in the township is the Huron river, having its source a few miles south of the southern boundary of the township, thence north until it finds an outlet into Lake Erie, at Huron. It increases in size quite rapidly. It receives quite an accession to its waters before leaving the township, the first of which is called Rice's run, which puts in from the east and intersects the river during the first two miles of its travel; the second is a stream having its source in the extreme southwestern limits of the township, running north until it intersects with the river. It drains a large extent of the level land, or marsh lands, and is for this reason called Marsh river, and when its waters mingle with those of the river it is of considerable volume.

The southern boundary of this township forms the line between Huron and Richland counties. In the southwestern part of the township there is a large extent of marsh lands, but these have been drained and are largely under cultivation.

At an early day there were to be seen the remains of an ancient fortification, situated in the western part, and within the boundaries of the town plat. Its

embankments were in a circular form, plainly and distinctly marked, and trees of a large size were growing upon them.

There were no Indian villages or settlements within this township, but there were numerous bands going and coming continually from the neighboring Wyandot settlement, and on the eastern bank of the river there is said to have been an Indian burial ground.

The first settlement made in this township was sometime before the war with Great Britain, supposed to be about 1810 or 1811, by Caleb Palmer, a surveyor, whose calling brought him into this part of the country, although he then lived in Trumbull county. A small settlement was then made, and Palmer put up the first log cabin in the township in 1811, about one mile northeast of the present village of New Haven, on the road leading to Norwalk. Woodstock and Newcomb also came at a very early date.

The settlement increased quite fast during the years 1814 and 1815. During these two years, Josiah Curtiss, Reuben Skinner, Jas. MacIntyre, David Powers, Samuel B. Carpenter, John Barney, Samuel Knapp, Martin M. Kellogg, the Inschos, Henry Barney, Royal N. Powers, Chism May, Calvin Hutchinson, George Beymer, Wm. Clark, Jacob Specker, Rouse Bly, Joseph Dana, John Alberson, George Shirel, Matthew Bevard, William York, Prince Haskell, Stephen Stilwell, and many others cast their fortunes with the settlement.

The first election in New Haven township was held on the 17th of August, 1815. John Barney was chairman; Josiah Curtiss and Stephen D. Palmer, judges; Daniel Powers and James McIntyre, Jr., clerks. Following are the names of the officers at that time elected: Samuel B. Carpenter, clerk; Robert Inscho, John Barney, Martin M. Kellogg, trustees; James McIntyre, Chisim May, overseers of the poor; Samuel Knapp, Reuben Skinner, fence viewers; Stephen D. Palmer, Henry Barney, supervisors; Calvin Hutchinson, Samuel Knapp, appraisers; Calvin Hutchinson, constable; Caleb Palmer, treasurer.

The first white child born within the limits of New Haven township, was Ruth, daughter of Caleb and Harriet Palmer. She was born April 29, 1813. She married Jesse Youngs.

George Beymer was the first person who died in New Haven. He settled in the township in 1815, and died June 24, 1817, after a long illness, contracted while he was in Franklin county, Ohio. A large family was bereft of a father when he was removed, and because of this fact, and also as it was the first time that death had invaded the settlement, the occasion was one of the intensest sorrow. An old settler, speaking of the funeral, says that it was one of the most agonizing experiences that he can recall to mind, and one of the most solemn. The women who were present gave expression to their grief in the most heart-rendering manner, wailing and sobbing during the whole of the sad service. The sermon was preached by the Rev. James McIntyre.

The first couple married in the township, were James Skinner and Harriet Beymer. They were married in June, 1817, at Reuben Skinner's house, by Caleb Palmer.

The first Masonic funeral in New Haven was that of Dr. John B. Johnson, who died in 1824.

The first school was taught by Sophia Barney, in 1815. Joseph Dana taught the first singing school, about 1820.

Caleb Palmer's was the first log house. The first framed building was a small barn built by Royal N. Powers. The first brick house was that of J. K. Partello.

Mrs. Joseph Darling (a daughter of "Priest" Edwards, of Ripley), taught the first Sunday school about the year 1830, upon what was later known as the Henry Trimmer farm.

The first sawmill was built by William Clark, on lot sixty-five, section two, in the year 1816. It was afterwards owned by Moses S. Beach. It has long since passed away, but the old race can still be seen.

The first gristmill was built by Caleb Palmer, in 1816, or the year following, upon lot fifty-seven, section two.

The first Fourth of July celebration of which any information can be gleaned, was in 1822. It was held upon the square, where a green bower was erected over the speaker's stand and dinner tables.

Joseph Dana was for many years the teacher of an excellent school at the village. He was a man of fine scholarship and had a peculiar ability in, and fondness for, his profession. He labored, however, against many disadvantages. One of them was the absence of the conveniences for writing, which are now thought indispensable. The pupils had no paper, slates or blackboards, upon which to exercise their chirographic abilities, and traced their "pothooks" and rude letters in sand strewn upon smooth boards.

A school house was built quite early in the history of the township, which was, for the time, an unusually good one. It was originally but one story high, but another was added by the Masonic fraternity.

Most of the Indians who were seen by the early settlers in New Haven, were of the Seneca tribe, one of the divisions of the formerly powerful nation known as the Iroquois Confederacy. The southwestern part of Huron county was peculiarly the hunting ground of this tribe. The Wyandots or Hurons were also seen, but not so frequently; and at times, some of the Delawares.

Before the settlement of the country some of these tribes inhabited the Firelands, and held them as their own. After the pale face came, they, no longer, regarded the territory as their home, and seem only to have wandered through it, tarrying a little while here and there, hunting, fishing and making maple sugar. They had some villages in the northern part of the Firelands, but none in the southern.

The Senecas passed through New Haven, on their way to the eastern hunting grounds, sometimes in bodies of several hundreds, but more often in small companies which occasionally camped for a few days or weeks near the bank of the Huron. Some rode upon ponies, and some traveled afoot. All were clothed in characteristic Indian style. The warriors wore the peculiarly fierce appearing feathered headdress, and were clothed in buckskin. The squaws were always neatly dressed, in short skirts, beaded moccasins, and gaily bedecked blankets. They brought baskets, deer hams and various trinkets to the settlers, which they were always anxious to barter for bread, flour or meal.

The first sermon delivered in the township was by James McIntyre, Jr., in the log school house. Mr. McIntyre was a Methodist preacher. He was the son

of an early settler, who bore the same given name, and who came to the county in 1814. The son was without education save that which he obtained from the few books which fell into his possession. He was awkward, uncouth, illy clad and had a poor voice, but he was in earnest and argument was his forte. His style was dry, plain, but forcible in reason and was seemingly convincing. He was a preacher of the argumentative style and was fond of a debate with some preacher of a different religious faith. Early settlers describe him as a remarkably tall, gaunt, ungainly figure, with thin, peaked face, small, deep set eyes, and sandy hair. He usually appeared at the place where a meeting was to be held, attired in a tow cloth shirt, often worn in the manner of a frock, tow cloth pantaloons, one tow cloth suspender, with a "buckeye" hat upon his head, and *barefooted*. He was the last man a stranger would have picked out in the little croup as the preacher. He would begin speaking in a cracked, squeaking voice, and those who had never seen him or heard of him before, would imagine that they saw before them some poor, cracked and crazed fanatic. Wonder would soon change to admiration, as the pioneer preacher proceeded with the argument of his sermon. He was, although poorly educated, naturally smart, energetic and earnest. His converts were numerous, and the amount of good he accomplished, great.

New Haven was settled by a superior class of men. Many of them had enjoyed unusual educational advantages, and a number were much better endowed with material goods than the pioneers in a new country generally are. As the village was formed at an early day, there were many who came in without experiencing the pleasures or pains of pioneer life. This class did not, as a rule, take up land. They were not, in the proper sense of the term, early settlers. They located in the village and followed trades, and their number was so great that many are not even mentioned, while others are barely referred to.

The first lawyer who located in the township was Wm. Clark, Esq., who settled as early as 1815.

The first chopping in the township, for the purpose of improvement, was done in 1810.

The first wheat was sown by Caleb Palmer in 1810—before he became a settler—upon the ground where he afterward located his home.

The first orchard was put out upon the farm of Reuben Skinner. Mr. Skinner and his son took a quantity of cranberries, which they picked upon the marsh or prairie, to Knox county, and exchanged them for one hundred of very small trees. The Skinners made their settlement in 1814.

NEW HAVEN VILLAGE.

The village of New Haven was laid out by David and Royal N. Powers, upon the 8th of April, 1815. The plat was constructed upon the plan of the town plat of New Haven, Connecticut, and the village was as tastefully and conveniently laid out as any in the state of Ohio. This was the second town plat laid out upon the Firelands. The center of the plat, an open space, of diamond shape, was just north of the township center. Streets were laid out, north, east, south and west, from the angles of this open common, and these were inter-

sected, at right angles, by other streets, all at an equal distance from the center of the plat. Alleys were laid out, sub-dividing the blocks. There were one hundred and eighteen lots, over sixty of which were sold and improved within the first few years of the existence of the village. In 1820, New Haven was regarded as a rival, in matters of trade and manufacture, of Norwalk and Mansfield. This rivalry was maintained until the completion of the Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark railroad, when, from a combination of causes, it began to decline.

New Haven village was incorporated in 1838 or '39, but it is said that officers were not regularly or properly elected until several years later. Wm. V. B. Moore was mayor in 1839. No trace of any official mention can be discovered before that date. The first and second pages of the corporation record are gone, and the first date shown is 1843. Under this date, by reference to various entries, we find that the officers were at that time as follows: P. R. Hoy, mayor; R. L. McEwen, recorder (or clerk); J. K. Partello, J. C. Towne, Wm. John, D. F. Webber, James Graham, trustees (members of council).

Almost one-fourth of the township, section number four, was originally a wet prairie or marsh. In an early day, cranberries, huckleberries, "sauger," wild ducks and pigeons were the principal products found on this marsh, but today it is reclaimed by an extensive system of drainage so that farmers have a rich reward for their labor, in grass, grain and corn. Celery is also extensively grown. All of this work has been accomplished within the past forty years. The marsh feeds a small stream known as Marsh run, tributary to Huron river. It is a fact not generally known that this marsh is the largest tract of this kind of land in the United States.

New Haven village was on the direct thoroughfare from the south to the lake, and the merchants had not only a good home trade, but received the liberal patronage of the hundreds of teamsters who drove through with loads of produce from Mansfield and other points in the vicinity. Goods were, in those days, hauled by teams from Baltimore and Philadelphia to the lake ports north of New Haven, and the teamsters upon their back trip gave the preference to this village, over all others, as a place to purchase those articles they needed for personal use, and goods for people living along their line of travel south.

These teamsters were men of considerable character and ability. They transacted their affairs in as business-like a way as does the captain of a vessel, or the officer of a freight line, taking bills of lading, etc. They drove six-horse teams in front of their immense wagons, called "land schooners," and were thus able to transport heavy loads of produce and merchandise. Sometimes the roads for several miles would be filled with these turnouts, presenting the appearance of an immense procession or caravan. Many a time the diamond, or square common, in the center of the plat, was so filled with these teams, and those of farmers in the vicinity, who came in to trade, that it was impossible, well-nigh, for a pedestrian to cross from one side to the other.

Early in the history of New Haven, when there were few banks in the country, when money was scarce, and the skins of animals, beeswax, and salts or ashes, were the principal articles of traffic, David Powers, Royal N. Powers and Martin M. Kellogg, established a banking house and issued notes, the lowest denomina-

tion of which was valued at twenty-five cents. These notes were put into circulation, but after a short time they were not receivable at par, and finally they were taken in exchange for goods by Royal N. Powers, when he opened a store.

New Haven's prosperity began at an early day, increased rapidly and ceased suddenly. Fortune is fickle with communities as well as men. She smiled upon this one in its infancy; withdrew her favor and put the past and present conditions of the village into a forcible and saddening contrast. The Sandusky and Newark railroad was built in the years 1843 and 1844. New Haven lay directly in the way of the proposed road, and its people were called upon to aid the enterprise to the extent of a few thousand dollars. The amount asked for would probably have been subscribed, had it not been for the counsel of Judge Ives. He regarded it as impossible to build the road by any other route than through the village, and advised against extending any financial assistance.

On account of not receiving the assistance asked for, the road was run a mile west of the village, and from that time the town of New Haven began its decline. The Sandusky, Norwalk & Mansfield electric line now traverses its principal street north and south, but the early day prosperity of the town will never be revived.

New Haven having in early times, a larger population than any of her sister townships, it followed naturally that the people led a more jolly, social life than in most other communities. Almost every Saturday afternoon was given up to amusement, and nearly the whole population was there gathered upon the square to indulge in various games, such as ball, pitching quoits, wrestling, running, jumping, etc. Many a royal frolic was had at the taverns, and many a jovial crowd assembled to engaged in some hilarious but harmless merry-making.

The weddings and parties were occasions of unbounded enjoyment. There was a lack of formality and of the artificial but plenty of honest, homely hospitality and good feeling. A number of men and women would often go in an ox cart to the house of a friend where they had been invited, and there meeting many other guests, would enjoy in a genuinely sociable way the whole of a long, but seemingly short evening. Sometimes the accommodations were apparently insufficient for the number of guests. There would, perhaps, be no table large enough to hold the substantial supper or dinner that had been provided, but it was an easy matter to take a door from its hinges and lay it upon a couple of barrels, and the ladies and gentlemen of the olden time probably enjoyed the various good things, set forth upon this improvised table, as their descendants do the luxuries now more elegantly served. Some of the weddings were great "social events."

As early as 1810, a mail was carried from Mansfield to the mouth of the Huron by a man named Facer, who continued to carry it until May, 1813, when Andrew Brewster commenced to carry it, and continued to do so for two years. His father lived in Mansfield. There was then no settlement between Mansfield and Huron, it being one unbroken wilderness and the road a mere trail. He traveled what was the old state road, running through the center of Ripley and Fairfield. He said he would see only three or four white persons on the route, though Indians were met very frequently. They made him no trouble, however, and were never so much a cause of fear as were the wolves. The country was full of these

disagreeable and dangerous animals, and it is said by old settlers that Brewbaker seldom dismounted from his horse, because afraid that he would be molested if he did so. He was accustomed to pour grain into a basin, shaped hollow, which he had chopped in a fallen tree, and sit in the saddle while his horse ate.

It was some time during Brewbaker's period of service that a postoffice was established in the township. The first was a box nailed upon a post, and thus literally a *post* office. Joseph Dana was the first postmaster. His duties were not arduous. People who expected mail matter were accustomed to go to the box, open it, examine the contents, and, if they found any letters addressed to themselves, to carry them home. Although Darling is generally spoken of as the first postmaster, there is no doubt but that Caleb Palmer was the first man regularly commissioned to fill that office.

A stage route was laid out through the township, north and south, in the year 1819. It was only a short time anterior to this date that the roads had become worthy of the name. They were at first mere trails, winding through the woods, but the spirit of improvement was abroad, and regular roads were laid out, the timber cut and travel made less tedious.

Royal N. Power was the first merchant or regular trader who brought goods into the township and kept them for sale.

Deer, coonskins and beeswax were the principal articles of traffic, and were the only things that would bring money in the early pioneer times. Coonskins were twenty-five cents each, deerskins a shilling a pound dry. Beeswax, twenty cents a pound.

Not long after McIntire commenced preaching the Methodist doctrine, Presbyterian services were held at the house of John Barney, by a Mr. Mathews, of Ashland.

The first resident physician in New Haven was Samuel B. Carpenter, who commenced practice as early as 1814.

The mercantile business was of great magnitude. The pioneers in business were Royal A. Powers, Hopkins, Hinman, and Williams, who had a large stock of goods, Ives and Askins, and there were others. Later T. W. Crowell and Sumner Webber. At one time there were five dry goods stores and it was not an unusual thing for the larger ones to take in five hundred dollars a day. New Haven was on the direct thoroughfare from the south to Lake Erie. The merchants had a good home trade and had liberal patronage from the hundreds of teamsters that drove through with their produce from Mansfield and other points. They drove six horse teams with their immense wagons called "Land Schooners." We of the younger generation in this day of rapid transit with steam and trolley cars, cannot conceive of the inconvenience of the going and coming of our forefathers.

NORWICH TOWNSHIP.

Norwich township was named in honor of its Connecticut namesake. At the original survey by Almon Ruggles the township contained sixteen thousand five hundred and twenty-nine acres, and the land was estimated to be worth to the original grantees about one dollar and fifty cents per acre. From the time the grant was made to the close of the War of 1812 many of the grantees had

sold their claims, or at their decease, left them to their heirs, who in some instances sold them to speculators or permitted them to be sold for taxes. The first house in the township was a cabin built by the surveying party for their own convenience.

The first road opened to the township was that made by General Beall and his army in 1812, leading from Wooster to Fremont, through New Haven and Norwich. The trail came into the township at the southeast corner and ran through northwesterly and left the township on the north side about one and a half miles east of the northwest corner. Hopkins made a survey of the trail, and located the present road leading from where the B. & O. railroad crosses the Greenwich and Norwich center road.

On the 8th day of November, 1808, the township received its name and was divided into four sections, as were each of the thirty townships comprising the Firelands. Norwich was drawn by nineteen persons.

As early as 1815, Daniel L. Coit had become by heirship and purchase the owner of the township of Norwich, excepting a portion of the first section. Later he sold sections two and three, comprising the north half of the township to Judge Canfield, of Connecticut, who soon after sold the same to James Williams, Philip R. Hopkins and David W. Hinman.

In the spring of 1816 Messrs. Williams, Hopkins and Hinman surveyed the two sections into one hundred acre lots. These were in size one hundred and sixty rods east and west by one hundred rods north and south, making five tiers of eight lots each in a section, and numbering from the southeast corner of the sections. Hopkins was the surveyor. These gentlemen also laid out a village. It was named Barbadoes, and was situated on the west end of lot thirty-eight in section second, and the adjoining portion of lot six in the third section. The survey was completed in June. The surveying party built a small log house, the first in the township, on lands now owned by Kinsman Bowen. The same year John Williamson put up the walls and roof of a hewed log house on the village plat, near where Durwin Boughton's house later stood. That was long known as the "village house," though no other was built on the plat. Williamson neither finished the house nor occupied it; in fact, nothing further of his history is known.

A small band of Seneca Indians, with Seneca John at their head, sometimes made their camp in the township. John could speak a little English. He was honest and trusty, but others of the tribe were drunken and thievish. Their dead were usually enclosed in a bark coffin and buried near their camp. There were a few conical mounds in the southeast part of the township when first settled. These were believed to have been burial places for the dead and have long since disappeared.

In the fall of the year 1816 Chauncey Woodruff and Wilder Lawrence, with their respective families, left Saratoga county, New York, for the wilderness of Ohio. After a tedious journey, they reached Trumbull county, where they rested until the severe months of winter had passed. Chauncey Woodruff and his son, George H., came on to Norwich and selected lots for future homes. The son remained at New Haven while his father returned for the family. On the 8th of February, 1817, Woodruff and Lawrence arrived in New Haven;

and, on the 10th, started, with their families, for Norwich. Accompanied by a few friends, they journeyed on, and before night arrived at the "village house" before mentioned. This consisted of but the walls and roof; holes had been cut for a door and fire-place. Oak puncheons had been prepared for a floor, and lay near by under the snow, which was then about one foot deep. A few were soon fished out and placed in position and a fire started. Blankets were hung for a door, and supper prepared, over which the company made merry. In laying in stores for the occasion, a jug of the "ardent" had been procured, and doubtless added much to the jollity of the evening within the cabin, while without the wolves made night hideous with their incessant howling.

Mud run is the largest stream in the township. It rises in Seneca county and enters Norwich township near the southeast corner and flows and generally runs northeasterly. It derives its name from the muddy appearance of its banks and the absence of stone and gravel in its bed.

Slate run also rises in Seneca county, flows across the western line of the township on lot number thirty-four, runs northeasterly across section third, and unites with Mud run on lot number thirty-eight. It receives its names from the slate rock over which it runs. These streams are tributary to Huron river. Other small streams exist in the township, but as they are wholly unimportant we omit description.

The soil is a clay loam, varying from light clay on the ridges to black loam between them. The whole is well adapted to agriculture. The subsoil is brick clay. A few "cat swamps," of a few acres each, lie in the southeast part of the township. The whole township was originally heavily timbered.

The township was situated on the outcrop of the black slate rock, and occupies a middle position between the sandstone on the east and the limestone on the west. The slate rock dips to the east and runs under the sandstone, which appears on the surface about five miles east, in the township of Greenfield. The limestone which lies under the slate rises to the surface about five miles west, in the township of Reed in Seneca county. Above the slate rock, for about fifteen feet, the subsoil contains a large quantity of water-worn limestone of the buff-colored variety, containing numerous fossils, such as coral and shellfish of many species. Along the streams are numerous sulphur springs. Sometimes they appear in the bed of the streams, and at others rise to the surface of the bottom lands, forming deer licks. Big lick, the longest in the township, lies near the center of section four and contains nearly an acre.

Litigations as to titles of property, kept settlers from making improvements, except for living and this kept others from entering the township with a view of making settlements.

In 1827 Coit resurveyed the land and sold to settlers, old and new, at two dollars per acre and improvements began in earnest, and a new era began to dawn, as the industriously inclined from the settled districts of the east began to seek a place where they might make a home for themselves and their families in the west.

As the tract was heavily timbered which must be removed before the seed could be sown, which was to furnish their food, and a place for shelter yet to be built, labor and privation welcomed them when they made their arrival.

Today their ancestors are enjoying the results of their labors.

Instead of the dense forest that welcomed them, we see the well fenced and tilled farm today.

Instead of the small log house, which was to them, we see today the comfortable and commodious farm house and stock and grain barns. That the residents of the township of today inherited the sturdy qualities of his forefathers is manifest by fully ninety per cent owning their homes.

The first birth was that of twin children of Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson, on the 24th of October, 1817. They lived in the house of Hosea Harnden. But one of these infants survived its birth, and that only a few hours.

The first person born in the township that survived its birth was Owen Fletcher, son of John Fletcher, February 22, 1818, eleven days subsequent to the time Fletcher, Rossman and Moore moved into the township. He died near Toledo, a few years since, of the small pox, leaving no family except a wife.

The first marriage in the township was that of Augustus Cook to Miss Martha Fletcher, March 3, 1819. The marriage contract was solemnized at the "surveyor's house," where her father lived, by Richard Burt, Esq., of Monroeville. The wedding was attended by nearly all the settlers in the township, who enjoyed a friendly social afternoon visit. Augustus Cook was born in Onondaga county, New York, and came to Norwich in December, 1818. His wife, Martha, was born in Otsego county, New York, and came to Norwich with her father, John Fletcher. Mr. and Mrs. Cook lived in the township until 1871, when they removed to Michigan, in which state he died August 14, 1878, leaving a wife and seven children.

The first death was an infant son of Wilder Lawrence, February 19, 1817, only nine days after their arrival in the township. It was buried on the bank of Mud run, some twenty rods northeast of the present burying ground. Soon after, Chauncey Woodruff buried a son at the same place. One of these children was born in Trumbull county while the parents were enroute from the state of New York. The first adult person that died in the township was Richard Moon, in the fall of 1819. Elder J. Wheeler, then a resident of Greenfield, preached the funeral sermon. This was the first burial that had been attended with religious services. The body was interred on the bank of Mud run.

The first frame building in the township was built in 1832. It was a barn and later stood on the farm of Lewis Bodelier.

The frame dwelling house was built by Cyrus Niles. It was designed as a dwelling house and cabinet shop. It was built in 1835 and burned the following year.

The first brick house was built by John Bowen, Sr.

The first postoffice was established in 1827. It was North Norwich, so named to avoid repetition, there being a Norwich postoffice in Muskingum county. Naum Gilson was the postmaster for perhaps twenty years.

In 1848, postoffices were established on the Mansfield and Sandusky railroad, at Havana and Centerton in the township, and the North Norwich office was abolished in 1858.

The first corn was planted, on lot seven in the third section, by Messrs. Lawrence and Woodruff. This was in the spring of 1817.



MOTSON AND FRONT STREETS. CHICAGO. OHIO

Naum Gilson sowed the first wheat in the township. This was on lot twenty-eight in above section, the fall following the arrival of Mr. Gilson in the township.

Asa Gilson, Naum Gilson, Jonas Gilson, George H. Woodruff and Joseph Read, each planted or set out orchards in 1827. The Gilsons brought their apple seeds with them, and raised the trees. Joseph Read procured his trees in Norwalk township, and G. H. Woodruff purchased his of Morris Read, of Sherman.

Ira Halloway opened a small store on the corners, near the meeting house, in 1835. He remained long enough to sell out his stock of goods, and retired from the business.

In 1840, William L. Fish opened another stock of goods in the same house. He continued in business some five years.

Norwich was attached to Greenfield township in 1818, and, in the year following, Naum Gilson was elected supervisor for the township. He was the first sworn official. In 1820, the township of Sherman was organized, with Norwich attached. The April election was held at the house of Captain Hanford, in Sherman. The Norwich men, feeling dissatisfied at being required to go so far to election, rallied their forces, outnumbered the Sherman voters, and elected two trustees and the township clerk, in Norwich; Beckwith and Medad Woodruff were the trustees, and Jesse Woodruff, clerk. The next election was held at the house of Alvin Blodgett, in Norwich. A compromise was then effected, and the elections were afterwards held at the house of Burwell Fitch, in Sherman. In 1820, Russell Woodruff, of Norwich, was elected justice of the peace, and 'tis said he served the entire term of office (three years) without issuing a single process. In 1828, Asa Gilson was elected to the office of justice of the peace. He did not qualify. From that time until 1831, the office was vacant. In this year, Calvin Powell was elected. He was succeeded, in 1834, by William Robinson, who served until 1849. In 1857, Wesley Robinson was elected, and is still in office. L. W. Benham is also a justice of the peace in the township.

In 1827, Norwich was detached from Sherman and organized as a separate township. The first election, held in April of that year, was at the log school house near the former residence of George H. Woodruff, and for many years were held there. The qualified electors at this election were: Asa Gilson, Augustus Cook, Medad Woodruff, Naum Gilson, Joseph Read, Russell Woodruff, Wilder Lawrence and G. H. Woodruff. The officers elected on the occasion, so far as we are able to ascertain their names, were: Augustus Cook, clerk; Wilder Lawrence, Asa Gilson and Russell Woodruff, trustees. The only strife at this election, was over the election of a supervisor, there being but one in the entire township. Joseph Read and Wilder Lawrence each received an equal number of votes. The judges decided the contest by casting lots, declaring Joseph Read duly elected.

In preparing for the fall election, Augustus Cook, the township clerk, in company with Joseph Read, made a trip to Norwalk for the purpose of procuring the new ballot box, law books, etc., belonging to the township. Two yoke of oxen were attached to the wagon and driven along, as Read designed, to bring back a load of boards with which to construct a floor, doors, etc., for his

cabin. The ballot box and books were put into a bag and placed on the load. While fording Slate run, on the return, the wagon was overturned. After buffeting the stream, and carrying out the floating lumber, they discovered that the bag and its precious contents had floated down the stream, and gave chase. Far down the run it was seen bounding along in the current; Cook plunged in, and soon brought it safely ashore.

The first physician who settled in Norwich township was Dr. Hurlburt. He located on lot number forty, in the second section, in 1825. He practiced in the township until his death, in 1828.

In 1834, Peter Brown put in operation the first grist-mill in the township. This was propelled by horse power, and it is said did a good business. In 1830, Benjamin Moore built a saw mill on Slate run, on the west end of the farm afterwards owned by G. H. Woodruff. Two years later, Thomas Bennett, erected another saw mill on the same stream, and in 1840, Ira Wood built a third mill on the same stream. These mills were all eventually carried away by the high water.

In 1842, Miner Atherton built a steam sawmill on the fourth section. James L. Couch built another steam sawmill in the same section, a few years later. In 1846, John Idler built a steam sawmill at Centerton. This was burned in 1856, and rebuilt in 1857, by Messrs. Idler & Hester. It was again burned in 1859, and rebuilt the same year.

The first school house in the township was built in 1819. It was located on the east bank of Slate run, on lot six. The house was a log cabin and was covered with elm bark, size twelve by sixteen. It had neither floors, windows nor desks. A row of split oak benches constituted the furniture, and the unchinked places between the logs served for windows. The school was supported, as all the early schools were, by subscription, and Miss Aurilla Lindsey was the first teacher, in the summer following the erection of the house. In 1824, another school house was erected, also of logs, on the corners, a few rods south of where a church was later erected.

The first sermon preached in the township was by the Rev. Alvin Coe, in 1817. He was of the Presbyterian faith. The first church building was erected by the Methodists in 1837. The religious services held in the township had prior to this been at private houses and in the school houses.

The first post route through the township extended from Tiffin to Fitchville. It was established in 1827. Adam Hance carried the mail.

PERU TOWNSHIP.

Peru township was in the early settlement called Vredenburg, after a Mr. Vredenburg who had bought up the claims of the sufferers until he owned the second, third and fourth sections of the township. The first section was owned by other persons in the east, from whom the first settlers of that section bought their lands.

In the winter of 1820, the settlers held a meeting at the house of Joseph Ruggles, for the purpose of changing the name of the township, when the name of Peru was chosen by vote, and the name of the township has since been Peru.

The south and east portions of the township are rolling, with some bluffs along the streams. The northwestern part is more level, with considerable low lands. The principal timber was white oak, black and red oak and white wood, mostly on the first and fourth sections, black walnut and butternut along the streams, and mixed with some beech, maple, hickory, basswood, buckeye and some sugar maple near the streams. There were some small marshes in the early settlement, but they have been reclaimed.

The wolves were very numerous in the early settlement, and would frequently howl around the cabins by night in different directions at the same time, though in the day time they were quite shy and kept concealed most of the time.

There was no Indian village in the township at the time of the first settlements, although at that time and for a number of years after, the Indians would come twice a year or oftener and encamp near by to hunt for deer, turkey, raccoons and any other kind of game that suited them, staying several weeks at a time.

Its principal stream is the river Huron which, rising in Richland county, enters the township about half a mile east of the southwest corner, runs for the most part a general northeasterly course, and leaves the township on lot eight, section three. The east branch of the Huron has its source in Fairfield, enters Peru from Bronson on lot eighteen, section one, flows a northwesterly direction, and unites with the present stream in the township of Ridgefield, about a mile north of the town line. State run comes into the township from Seneca county, flows a northeasterly course into Ridgefield where it unites with the Huron. The streams afford excellent water power privileges which are more or less improved.

The earliest settlements in the township were made on the first section. The first white settlers were Elihu Clary, Henry Adams and William Smith, who together arrived on lot number five in section one on the 15th day of June, 1815. Adams, who was from Marlborough, Vermont, had come to Cleveland in the winter previous with team and wagon, and remained in the vicinity at work until his removal to Peru, then called Vredenburg. At Cleveland he was joined by Clary and Smith in the spring of 1815 who came from Deerfield, Massachusetts, on foot. From Cleveland the journey was made by all three on foot. They entered the township on the east line, crossed the east branch of the Huron river, a few rods below the bridge that now crosses the stream in Macksville.

The first township election was held at the house of Joseph Ruggles on lot twenty-eight, on the third day of April, 1820. James Vantine, Elijah Clary and Richard Eaton were elected trustees; Elihu Clary, township clerk; Daniel Mack and Newell Adams, fence viewers; Joel Clark and Alexander Pierce, overseers of the poor; Thomas Tillson and Eli Nelson, appraisers of property; and James Ashley, treasurer.

On the tenth day of October, 1820, the first state election was held at the house of Joseph Ruggles. Wyatt Cook, Hibbard Smith and Newell Adams were judges, and Elihu Clary and Henry Adams, clerks. The number of votes polled was twelve.

A school was opened on the center road, lot number twenty-nine, at the residence of Henry Adams, in the winter of 1820 and 1821; Henry Adams, teacher,

with about sixteen pupils, whose parents paid their schooling in proportion to the number of days sent.

The first religious meetings were held at the house of Elijah Clary, in 1816, and Mr. Coe preached the first sermon.

The first school in the township was kept by Nancy Adams, daughter of Bildad Adams, of Greenfield, in the summer of 1818. She taught in Macksville, in a log house.

The first house kept for the accommodation of travelers was opened by Henry Adams, in the fall of 1816. Joseph Ruggles built an addition to the Tillson cabin in the fall of 1817, when he opened it as a tavern. His sign was a pair of deer horns, and the tavern was called "the Buck Horn."

The first apple orchard planted, was set out by Henry Adams in the spring of 1817, the seed being brought by his brother, Newell, from Vermont.

The earliest burials were in private burying grounds. Some twenty or more bodies were interred on the farm of Henry Adams, but were subsequently removed to the center burying ground.

Moses C. Sanders opened the first store at Macksville, in 1820 or 1821.

Dr. Sanders was the first doctor in this township, and also the pioneer doctor of many of the surrounding towns. He was born in Milford, Massachusetts, in the year 1790. He came to Peru in August, 1818.

The first postoffice was established in 1818, under the name of Peru. Thomas Tillson was appointed postmaster, and kept the office in his own house, on lot twenty-eight. The location of the office was unsatisfactory to the residents of Macksville, and Mr. Tillson, after serving a few months, was superseded by Moses C. Sanders, and the location of the office changed to Macksville, where it has since remained, the name being Peru. The village is now generally known by that name.

Daniel Mack built the first frame house in the township, in 1820.

Daniel Mack built the first grist and saw mill in the township, some time in 1817.

Mrs. Polly Pierce used to relate many incidents of pioneer life in Peru, only one of which, however, touching her own experience, has been preserved. In the summer, 1816, accompanied by her little dog, she went through the dense forest on a brief visit to her father-in-law, Alden Pierce, in Greenfield. The family supplied her with a quantity of provisions, which she carried home with her, and, when within a mile of her cabin, she encountered a huge bear, which seemed intent on making a meal, either of the traveler, her provisions, or the dog. The heroic woman, however, was determined that old bruin should have neither, and taking her provisions under one arm, and the dog, crouched through fear at her feet, under the other, ran for dear life to her home, which she reached in safety, but not a moment too soon, as the brute was but a few rods behind her when she arrived at the door of her cabin.

A pioneer thus described his cabin, the bed and the first meal in their new home:

It was sixteen feet square, with a roof of "shakers," puncheon floor, and a door made also of puncheons. His bedstead consisted of two poles, some eight or ten feet in length, one end of which was stuck into a log in the wall of

the house, a few feet apart, and joined to a stake at the other end, triangular in shape. He used elm bark for bed-cord.

Their first meal in their new home consisted of pigs' feet and hulled corn, the corn costing one dollar per bushel.

Macksville, the only village in the township, is situated on the east branch of the Huron, near the east town line. It derived its name from Daniel Mack, the original owner of the land on which the village stands. The town site was subsequently owned jointly by Moses C. Sanders, John Nelson, John Atwater and John G. Taylor. Dr. Sanders kept the first store here in a small log house. Macksville was formerly a place of considerable activity. At one time there were four stores, two distilleries, three breweries, two asheries, and a hotel which frequently kept twenty to twenty-five teams and teamsters over night. This was before the time of railroads and when the wagon trade was something immense.

In the summer of 1822, an academy was established at Macksville. The principal promoters of the laudable enterprise were Dr. Moses C. Sanders, Harry O. Sheldon, Robert S. Southgate, Eben Guthrie and Elijah Clary. The institution was incorporated under the name of the "Lima Academic Society of Peru, Huron county." The first annual meeting was held on the first Tuesday in August, 1822, at which the following persons were elected a board of trustees for the then current year, viz.: Rev. Alvan Coe, president; Dr. Moses C. Sanders, Dr. William Gardner, Major Eben Guthrie and Robert S. Southgate. Harry O. Sheldon was elected clerk.

The school was opened the first Monday in December, 1822, with Amos B. Harris as principal teacher.

The building was a two-story frame, unpainted, and stood where the brick school house does now. The institution was called Lima academy, because of the fact that it was then expected the name of the village would be changed to Lima. The academy had an existence of only one year. The building was afterwards used for a common school, and as a house of worship by some of the religious societies.

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

Richmond township was formerly called Cannon, given in honor of Samuel Cannon, a wealthy man of Norwalk, Connecticut, who was one of the sufferers during the Revolutionary war. Soon after the grants were made and partitioned into sections among the grantees, in 1808, Judge Mills, of New Haven, Connecticut, and his brother, Elisha Mills commenced purchasing the interests of the grantees and acquired a controlling influence in the lands of Greenfield and New Haven, and a complete ownership of the township of Richmond. Later part of these lands were sold to George Hoadley and from him to John M. Woolsey. Judge Mills took the south part and Woolsey the north part.

The first land sold for settlement in the township was sold by Judge Mills to William Tidball, in 1825. It was lot twelve, second section. Tidball cleared a field the same year, built a cabin and set out an orchard of fifty trees, which he bought of Johnny Appleseed.

This township is bounded on the north by Norwich township; south, by Auburn and Cranberry townships, in Crawford county; east, by New Haven township; and west, by Venice township, in Seneca county.

Richmond is divided into upland and marsh. The upland occupies the north half of the township and a strip across the west side. This was covered with heavy timber. The north shore of the marsh is a bluff, and rises thirty or forty feet above the marsh. The soil is a clay loam, the surface generally undulating, except in the northwest part, where it is broken by streams.

Honey creek rises in the marsh on the north side, east of the center of the township, and runs west along the north shore some two miles, where it enters the woodlands. It leaves the township on the west line and empties into the Sandusky river above Tiffin, in Seneca county.

Originally the marsh covered over one-third of the township and contained about twenty square miles. It was six miles from east to west and over three miles in width, and covered over five thousand acres in Richmond township. These marshes have largely been reclaimed by draining and the soil is now cultivated, being particularly adapted for the growing of celery.

Before the lands of Richmond were offered for sale, the thousands of bushels of cranberries that annually grew on the marsh allured to the north shore a settlement of squatters numbering perhaps twenty families. An important part of their business consisted of picking cranberries, which were sold to the distant settlers. Hunting necessarily claimed a good share of their attention, and as the deer flocked to the marsh to avoid the flies in the summer and the hunters in the winter, their chances for deer hunting were unusually good.

With the sale of their cranberries, deer skins and coon skins, and the product of small patches of potatoes around their cabins, they managed to live, but made no improvements to entitle them to the name of settlers, nor did any of them ever become owners of the soil or join in the march of improvement that has since characterized the inhabitants of the township, who are honest and industrious, with good churches and well conducted schools, and the township today stands second to none in moral worth and prosperity.

Near the south shore of the marsh was a point of timbered upland and at the extreme northern point of this stood the cabin of Morehead, the pioneer hunter. His principal livelihood was in trapping and spearing muskrats, and in times of high water, made his daily rounds over the marsh in a small boat kept for that purpose. He was the first and for many years the only inhabitant of Richmond township, and many a weary hunter has sought his cabin and shared his homely fare, which usually consisted of Johnny cake and venison.

The township was organized in 1836, in the month of June, and on the fourth day of July following, the first election of township officers was held.

Prior to this, from 1815 to 1836, Richmond was attached to New Haven.

In 1837, the township was divided into two school districts, and a frame school house built in each, but a school was only kept in the west one in the winter of 1837. The east school house was not completed for a school that winter. These were the first frame buildings in the township.

The Methodist was the first church organization in the township. The first sermon preached in the township was by Michael Long, a preacher of the Brethren faith, at the home of Jacob Croninger.

In 1839 a postoffice was established, and James Foglesong was the postmaster.

There were births and probably deaths among the squatters, but the first birth among the settlers was that of Savilla Cline, daughter of John and Susan Cline.

The first marriage was that of James McManigal and Eliza Day. The first death was that of the widow Higley.

Section one—the southeast part of it at a very early day was thought to be a lake as decaying Indian canoes were found along its shores by the early white settlers, at this time being almost a worthless piece of land. Along the middle part of the north side cranberries grew in abundance, at the south side is the huckleberry marsh. In a few years the farmers made prairie hay from a part of it, the ground being too soft and miry, it had to be done by hand, mowed with the scythe, carried together and made in stacks, being drawn out during the winter when the ground was frozen hard.

In a few years more ditches were constructed the land being tilled from the edges, corn and potatoes being the principal crops. Only a few years ago Hollanders settled along the east side beginning to experiment in celery growing which has developed into one of the finest celery gardens of the country. During this year a large acreage of the territory has been purchased by Pittsburg parties and was surveyed into one hundred acre lots.

The Tiffin road was the first one opened, it began in 1836, was completed in four years. In many low places trees were cut and laid cross wise in the road, streams had to be forded.

Richmond has only a few miles of railroad, the Sandusky and Newark division of the Baltimore and Ohio cuts a small corner off the northeast part, we have two men living now in the township who worked on this old road-bed, P. M. Hershisser and John Carrothers. The Chicago division runs from the east side half way across the township. Street car lines we have none. Telephone service is quite well extended through the township, having our centrals at Attica, Chicago and New Washington.

We have the rural mail system and have our mail carried to our doors—one of the best improvements of the day.

A resident of the township writes thus: "We have had such industries as come in a farmer's life, sawmills, cider mills, tile and brick yards, etc. The soil being very productive, the principal crops are wheat, oats, corn potatoes. The growing and baling of hay has become one of the best paying crops to the Richmond farmer. We owe a debt of gratitude to our fore-parents for their Christian zeal and principals taught and instilled into their posterity. Richmond has furnished men and women who have gone out in nearly all the walks of life some of them today filling very honorable and responsible positions. We do not think there will be found in any township in Huron county, finer country residences, better kept farm buildings, well tilled lands, more comfortable homes, better society than in Richmond."

Richmond has never been blessed with any towns save that part of Chicago called Millertown, years ago it had two small groceries.

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP.

Ripley township was so named after the Rev. Hezekiah Ripley, of Connecticut, who was one of the "sufferers," and who located land in the third section.

Ripley is township number one in range twenty-two. It is bounded upon the south by Richland county, east by Greenwich township, north by Fairfield and west by New Haven.

The first settlement in the township was made a little earlier than 1826. Some of the first settlers were advised to not settle in Ripley on account of the then wild and unbroken forest, inhabited only by a few wandering Indians. But the lands in time were cultivated and is now an industrious and prospering community. The whole township was formerly covered with a thrifty growth of timber, or in the lower parts with swamp bushes. Most of the timber was maple and beech but there was a great abundance of the other varieties of wood, including oak, ash and walnut.

The great abundance of maple trees made this part of the county a favorite camping place for the Indians. They were accustomed to come regularly in the spring and make maple sugar. For a number of years after the whites came, the red man carried on this harmless and not excessively laborious occupation, the nearest approach to anything like industry that they ever undertook. Some of their bark sap troughs were found in the woods as late as 1830. The Indians also hunted here, but their principal object in visiting what is now Ripley township was to make maple sugar. There were other and better hunting grounds farther east, and their tribes often passed through upon a trail which led to the Black river country, where game was more abundant. The game consisted of deer and occasional bear, and the various smaller animals common to the northern part of Ohio and the entire west. There were wolves, too, and "shack hogs"—both great annoyances to the first settlers. The remains of their habitations found by the early settlers, and the dams still existing, indicated that beavers were quite numerous. No remarkable stories are told of experience with the Indians or adventure with wild animals.

There was a settlement in the southwest part of Ripley township, in 1820. Seth Foster, a man by the name of Decker, and another by the name of Jaralman, and a son of the latter, lived there in the year mentioned. Foster and Decker, who were from New York state, returned there after a short residence in the new country. Jaralman died, and his son moved away. Nothing is known in Ripley of those few men, who were its transitory pioneers. The first permanent settlement was made by the families of Moses Inscho, D. Broomback, and James Dickson, in 1825, and the following year. Broomback took up lot thirteen, in section four. He did not remain long in the township. Dickson settled upon lot ten, near Broomback, but not long after moved into the eastern part of the township.

Rev. Joseph Edwards, a native of Connecticut, who had been for two years a resident of Greenfield, came into Ripley in 1828, and bought a tract of land which

consisted of about nine hundred acres. His home was upon lot twenty-eight in the first section, where he remained until his death. He was a Presbyterian minister of the old school, a man of large ability.

Abraham Stotts, of Virginia, came into the township in the fall of 1825, and purchased land in lot twelve, section three. John Stotts, his son, came in the spring of 1826, and located on lot eleven, in the same section. Another son of Abraham Stotts, William, came a little later, and still another, Isaac Stotts, arrived a number of years later, and located in section two, lot twenty-one.

Henry Broomback was the first child born in the township. He now lives in Plymouth.

The first framed house was built by Deacon Timothy Austin, one mile north of Delphi, in 1834.

The first brick house was that of John Stotts, which stands upon lot eleven, section three.

The first orchard was planted by Aaron Service.

The first tavern was built by D. E. Merrill at the center, about 1835. It was a log building.

The first mill was built about the year 1828, southwest of Delphi, upon a small creek, in which there was usually insufficient water to turn the wheel.

The Rev. Joseph Edwards was the first ordained minister who preached in the township. He preached in 1827, to the first audience gathered for religious instruction, and consisting of twenty persons, representatives of seven families. This meeting was held at the house of Abraham Stotts.

Mrs. Harriet Russ, formerly Miss Harriet Edwards, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Edwards, then living in Greenfield, taught the first school held in the township, in the year 1827, for the sum of fifty cents per week, paid not in money, but labor at clearing land. This school was in the southwestern section of the township. The first school meeting was held also in 1827. A school house was erected in 1832, near the northeastern corner of the township, principally through the efforts of Daniel G. Barker. Sallie Fowler was the first teacher at this school.

The first practitioner of medicine known in the township, was Dr. Moses Saunders, of Peru. He, for a number of years, had the whole of what little practice there was in the settlement. Afterwards, Dr. William M. Ladd, of Fitchville, and Dr. Morton, of Greenwich, practiced in the township. The only resident physician of any note, in Ripley, was Dr. Cyrus Paine, who began here in 1833 and continued in practice for about five years.

For a number of years after the first settlement was made there was but one road in the township upon which travel was possible. This was the one running east and west through the center. The timber had been chopped along the line, but the road was unimproved, and it was only with difficulty that vehicles could be moved over it. The road cut through the township for Harrison's army to pass through, was grown over with bushes and small timber, and it was allowed to remain in this condition for some time after the settlement was commenced. Many of the early settlers cut their way into the township through the primeval forest.

The first store in Ripley township was opened here by Uvat Close.

There was a mail route through Ripley before the township was settled, upon which a man went once a week, between Mansfield and Norwalk. The first eastern mail was carried from New Haven through Ripley, Greenwich, Ruggles and Sullivan. For a few years the settlers were obliged to go to the older settled townships for their mail; but about 1830 a postoffice was established at the locality now known as Edwards' Corners, and the Rev. Joseph Edwards was made postmaster. When Delphi begun to be a place of trade, the postoffice was removed there, and designated as Ripleyville.

RIDGEFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Ridgefield township, according to the original survey and numbering, is township number four, and range twenty-three. Ranges commence at the east line of the reserve, and five miles to the range. Townships are numbered from south to north, consequently the east line of the township is one hundred and fifteen miles from the east line of the state, and the south line of the township is fifteen miles north of the southern base line of the Connecticut Western Reserve and Firelands. The township as a whole is quite level, it might be termed a plateau, but along the streams there are some high banks, or bluffs, the streams having worn deep channels, and in the northeast corner of the township it is somewhat broken or rolling.

Ridgefield township was divided into four sections, and these were again divided into two-hundred-acre lots, making twenty lots in each section.

It is bounded on the north by Oxford township, Erie county; south by Peru; east by Norwalk, and, west by Lyme townships.

The east branch of the Huron river enters the township from the south, crossing the southern boundary on lot six, in section one. Its course is slightly east of north, flowing from the township on the east line, lot two in the second section. The west branch of the Huron river is formed from two streams, which cross the south line of the township; one on lots one and six in section four, and the other on lot sixteen in the same section. Uniting on lot seven they form the main stream. This flows a general northerly direction to near the center of Monroeville village. Here the course changes to due east, thence a northeasterly direction, and, after many devious turnings, crosses the north line of the township on lot fifteen in the second section. Another stream flows from the southwest, and empties its waters into the west branch, in Monroeville village. This is known as Frink run, from the fact that William Frink was the first to build a habitation on its bank. Frink run and the west branch of the Huron river divide the township, and on the northeast side of these streams the land is of the nature of prairie, and generally of a deep rich soil, with small islands and groves of small timber. Another small stream enters the township from the west, flows east-northeast and empties into the west branch on lot fifteen, section second. It is called Seymour brook, from the fact that a man named Seymour was killed by the Indians, in 1812, while engaged in cutting a beech-tree, which stood on its banks. On the south and east side of Frink run and the west branch of the Huron river, the lands were heavily timbered, and possess a



EAST MAIN STREET, LOOKING EAST FROM JAMES STREET,
NEW LONDON, OHIO.

deep, rich, loamy soil, not excelled perhaps, by any township of the Firelands in productiveness.

The township is underlain with a slate rock, from seven to ten feet below the surface.

In the early settlement of the township, game of all kinds was very plenty, as were also fish in the streams.

Numerous parties of the Wyandot and other tribes of Indians had a habitation in early times along the river. They passed the time in hunting, fishing, making baskets, ax helms, etc., and were generally quiet and peaceable, except when under the influence of "fire-water," or whisky. During the War of 1812, two inmates of the Parker block house in Milan, Seymour and Pixley, were engaged in cutting a "bee-tree," standing on the south side of the small stream flowing through the Clary farm. They had nearly completed their labors, when they were fired upon by a party of cowardly Indians, and Seymour instantly killed. Pixley ran, but becoming entangled in the brushwood, was captured, and remained a prisoner for many months.

William Frink is thought to be the first white man that contracted for land in Ridgefield township, for the purpose of settlement. His contract is dated in 1811, and was for the south part of lot number five in the fourth section. Frink built the first house in the township. It was of logs and stood near the site of the house now owned by Samuel Clock. Frink was more hunter than farmer, and when Seth Brown came into the township, in the spring of 1812, Frink sold his contract and left the county. Very little is now known of his history, either before or since he left the township, except that he was eventually found dead in Seneca county. He was one of those characters who prefer the solitude of the wilderness.

Ridgefield township was organized the first Monday in December, 1815, and comprised the territory now included in the townships of Ridgefield, Sherman, Lyme, and the south half of Oxford. The first election was held in the spring of 1816, at the house of Joseph F. Read, on lot sixteen in section two.

Schuyler Van Rensselaer was the first postmaster in Ridgefield township.

The first white child born in the township of Ridgefield, was a son to Seth and Sarah Brown, born August 29, 1815.

The pioneer wedding in the township was Thomas Dickey to Miss Elizabeth Myers. It transpired in April, 1819. This couple died in Ridgefield, the wife in 1854, and the husband, January 10, 1879.

The first school house in the township was erected on lot number two hundred and seventy-two, in Monroeville village. It was, doubtless, built of logs, but the date of its construction, the writer could not ascertain. George Burt was the first teacher and he was paid ten dollars per month for his services.

In 1818 a Baptist church was organized in Ridgefield township, composed of members residing in the territory now embraced in Huron and Erie counties. The meetings of this body were held in different localities until 1835 when, by mutual consent, the church was permanently located in Norwalk. This was the first church organization in the township.

The first house in the township was built by Richard and Henry Burt, in 1817. The sawmill was built first, and the gristmill soon afterward.

A grist and sawmill was next built by George Myers, in the northeast part of the township. These were located on the Huron river.

Major Underhill built a sawmill soon after. This was on the east branch, lot three, section one.

In the first section of Ridgefield township, on lots number two and three, are found remains of ancient earthworks. It will be remembered the east branch of Huron river enters the township from the east on the corner of lot number three. In the first section there is a stream known as the Peru branch, which flows into the east branch on lot number three, where its course is turned north. These streams make three high banks or bluffs, which lie nearly in a triangular form. Upon these are earthwork fortifications of a circular form. There was also on lot number eighteen in the second section, on the east side of the west branch of the Huron river, an ancient mound of small size.

In the fourth section is located a circular earthwork, enclosing an area of, perhaps, ten acres. The indications are that a stockade formerly surmounted the present embankment. Immediately south of this are a number of mounds. In these, as in the others mentioned above, human bones have been found, indicating to a certainty that these elevations are the burial places of a race formerly inhabiting the country, but long since extinct.

FOUR CORNERS.

Dr. Daniel Tilden was undoubtedly the pioneer settler at the "Corners." The date of his coming was in 1817 or 1818. The next settler was, without doubt, the grandfather of Jay Cooke. Lewis Stone was the next settler and Martin Vroman the fourth.

Colonel James Smith settled at "Four Corners" in 1828. He purchased the hemp machine property in 1832; made brick for several years, removed to Monroeville in 1837.

A postoffice was established here as early as 1835, and Edward Cook commissioned postmaster.

The corners did not settle rapidly; in fact, the foregoing are all who may be regarded as pioneers: John Seymour, now of Lyme township, bought the Vroman property, and to him belongs the honor of selling the first merchant goods at the "corners." He sold to Lewis Stone. The second store was established by John K. Campbell in about 1835.

As early as 1830, and possibly earlier, the old stone school house was built. Prior to this, however, a school was held in one room of Martin Vroman's house. The teacher was a man named Perkins. This was as early as 1825. Religious services were held in the school house until the erection of the present church.

A society of the Sons of Temperance was established at quite an early date, and also a lodge of the I. O. G. Templars.

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP.

Sherman township is number three, range twenty-four, and was thus named in honor of Taylor Sherman, one of the directors of the Firelands company. The

name was given at a meeting of the directors held at New Haven, Connecticut, November 9, 1808.

It is bounded as follows: on the north by Lyme township, south by Norwich township, east by Peru township, and west by the townships of Thompson and Reed, in Seneca county.

At this time the lands were divided by lot among those holding "sufferer's" claims.

The surface is generally level, and the soil principally clay. Along the borders of the streams it is mixed with yellow sand, and is easily tilled. Away from the streams the soil is harder to work, but is productive, and improves very much with proper culture. This township contains but little waste land.

Daniel Sherman, (son of Taylor Sherman and uncle of General W. T. Sherman) Burwell Fitch and Samuel Seymour, were the first white settlers of the township. The year of their arrival was 1812. They were from Norwalk, Connecticut, and the last end of their journey was over what was then known as the Portage road, their teams being the first which traveled over it. The first night after leaving Newcomb's in Bronson, was spent in the woods. They were not accustomed to this sort of a life, and were disturbed and considerably alarmed at the noise of the wild animals with which the surrounding woods abounded. They immediately commenced improvements, in the second section. The first clearing was made on Sherman's land, and the next on that of Burwell Fitch. The first house in the township was built on the land of the latter.

Most of the early settlers located in the first, third and fourth sections, the second not being in the market. No particular effort was made by the original owners to draw settlers that way, except, perhaps, by the Lockwoods. In 1814, land was held at one dollar and fifty cents per acre.—Blanchard came this year and bought fifty acres of land. Daniel Sherman gave him fifty acres more to induce him to settle, and the year following he began clearing his farm.

At the first meeting of the commissioners of Huron county, held August 1, 1815, Sherman was attached to Greenfield township, and in December of the same year was detached, and together with the south half of Oxford was united with Ridgfield. About the year 1820 it was united with Norwich, but no record is given of it. March 6, 1827, Norwich was detached, and Sherman has since remained a distinct township. The first general election, while united with Norwich, was held in October 10, 1820.

The first election on record after the separation from Norwich was held April 6, 1829, at which time fifteen votes were cast.

The first school was taught by George Hanford in about 1824 or 1825 in a building standing on lot number eighteen in the third section. There were some eight or ten scholars in attendance. In 1827 or 1828 the township was divided into two school districts, termed the east and west districts. The first school house was built on lot number nineteen in the first section, and the first public school was taught by Sarah Mason, one of the early settlers of Norwalk. She received the first public money that ever came into the township for school purposes, and was paid off in silver half dollars. She had fourteen or fifteen scholars.

The first sermon preached in Sherman township was, without doubt, by Rev. Alva Coe, at the house of Daniel Sherman. It was early in the settlement. The Methodist ministers were early upon the scene, and organized a church. Meetings were held at private houses, usually at Joseph La Barre's and William Williams'.

There was at one time a large and flourishing lodge of Good Templars in the township. This has gone out of existence.

The first death in the township, was a child of R. S. Paine, date not remembered. The body was interred in Lyme township. The second death was the wife of Daniel Sherman, in 1821. She was buried on the farm of her husband, in what is now the burying ground, in lot number six in the third section.

The first frame house in the township, was built by Henry M. Read, soon after 1820. It was located on Slate run. Coles Bloomer built the first brick house in Sherman township.

The pioneer "tavern" was opened by Coles and Albert Bloomer, in 1834. The present "Sherman house" was established by David Weaver.

Daniel Sherman received a commission as postmaster, but did not accept the office. Rufus S. Paine was next commissioned, and became the first postmaster. After a few years, the office was removed to Weaver's corners, and C. A. Bloomer was duly commissioned postmaster. In 1871, a mail route was established from Bellevue to Lodi, and afterward an office was established at the German settlement, called Bismark, one mile south of the center, with C. Westrick postmaster.

In about 1835, Messrs. Isaac and David Underhill of Ridgefield township, established a store at Weaver's corners. This closed out after a few years.

Few of the present inhabitants can appreciate the privations endured by the pioneer settlers of Sherman township. Their milling was done at Eldridge, Cold Creek, and sometimes Greenfield. Wheat and corn were the principal productions, but there was no market. At one time thirty-six bushels of corn were paid for one barrel of salt. Not many of the necessities, and fewer of the luxuries, of life were enjoyed by them. Wolf scalps and Owl creek bills constituted a large portion of the currency.

The Indians were not very numerous in this township, but were often seen in hunting parties after the war. At one time they had a camp in the township. Among their number was the noted chief, Seneca John. An Indian trail ran northwest and southeast through the township, and was visible for many years.

TOWNSEND TOWNSHIP.

Townsend township derives its name from Kneeland Townsend, who owned the greater part of the land in the first settlement. He was, prior to coming to Ohio, a merchant in New Haven, Connecticut, and was a man highly respected for his integrity, business habits and general uprightness of character.

The surface of the township is generally level with slight undulations in the second and third sections. The soil is a clay loam, with a mixture of sand in the northern and northwestern portions. The streams are small, the largest being

Rattlesnake creek, a tributary of the Huron, flowing through the west part of the township. The name originated from the large number of rattlesnakes that were formerly found along the stream. There are two other branches of the Huron in the western part, and La Chapelle, a tributary of the Vermillion, in the eastern part. The stream is said to have derived its name from a Frenchman who discovered it, and explored it to its source.

Townsend was originally clothed with a magnificent growth of timber, the principal varieties of which were white oak, whitewood, ash, hickory, black walnut, butternut, beech and maple. The manufacture of white oak staves was an important industry of this township for many years. The staves were usually marketed at Milan, and so extensive was the business that the product was known as "Townsend wheat."

The first election for township officers was held, in pursuance of an order of the supreme court, October 15, 1820, at the house of Benjamin Bailey. Jasper Miles, Abijah Barber, and Isaac R. Wright were judges, and Frederick Perring and Royal Munger, clerks of election. Township officers were elected as follows: Frederick Perring, clerk; Abijah Barber, David Lee, and Benjamin Bailey, trustees; Thomas E. Fletcher and Isaac R. Wright, overseers of the poor; Royal Munger and David C. Lewis, fence viewers; Hiram Bailey, appraiser of property; Samuel Sherman, lister; Abijah Barber, treasurer.

The earliest settlements in the township were made in the north part, in section number three, and George Miller is generally accorded the honor of being the first settler. He removed with his family from Pennsylvania to Milan, (then called Avery,) Erie county, Ohio, in 1809, and remained there until 1811, when he came to Townsend, and took up his abode on lot number five. His log cabin was the first habitation for the abode of civilized people in the township. Mr. Miller was a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in 1765.

Soon after Miller, came William Burdue and family. Burdue was also a native of Pennsylvania, and was born November 26, 1782. March 28, 1809, he married Elizabeth Blazer, who was born September 26, 1791. In 1810 he removed with his family, consisting of wife and one child, to the vicinity of Milan, then called Indian Village, but remained there only one year, when he moved into Townsend, making his location on lot number four, in section three.

There was only one mill on the Firelands at that time, and that was situated at the head of Cold creek.

The first postoffice was established in 1833 or 1834, with Daniel Phillips as postmaster, who kept the office in his house, on lot ninety-two, in the first section. The office was called East Townsend, which name it has retained until the present time, for the reason that there was an office in Sandusky county of the name of Townsend.

The first east and west mail through Townsend was carried, on foot, by a man of the name of Coles, whose trip extended from Akron to Norwalk. At first his mail bag consisted of a large sized pocket book, locked with a padlock of about the size of a silver half dollar, but the first trip he made through Townsend his "mail bag" was entirely empty. An early mail carrier was a man by the name of Waldron, and on one of his trips through the woods he threw the mail bag at a deer, knocking it down, and before the animal could regain his feet he

jumped upon it and cut its throat with a pocket-knife. A man by the name of De Bow carried the mail from Norwalk to Medina, back in the twenties. His route passed within twenty or thirty rods of Thomas Fletcher's house, on the creek, south of the Medina road. Fletcher cut a mortise in a large white oak tree, on the road, for the reception of his mail, and made an arrangement with the mail carrier to blow his tin horn whenever his "box" contained any mail. The arrangement was faithfully carried out by De Bow, and the sound of his horn became as familiar as the song of the whippoorwill.

The earliest doctors who practiced in the township were doubtless from the surrounding towns. The first resident physician was Dr. G. R. Stanton, who located at the center, and began to practice in 1847.

The different settlements in Townsend were so separated from each other that election days were the only occasions on which they met together. Men and boys attended the election as a holiday, bringing their rifles with them to shoot at target. As but few votes were polled and but little excitement, politically, prevailed, they had plenty of time to engage in sports.

At the presidential election, when Jackson was elected president, there was a grand wrestling match between the two political parties. It was a close contest, but the administration party prevailed, who regarded the result as significant, and the affair came very near ending in a general fight.

Although the first settlers in Townsend were among the first in the county, the township was nevertheless much more slowly settled than many others. The land was difficult to bring under subjection, being generally wet and very heavily timbered, and the township was generally shunned by the earlier emigrants. Many who did take up land, and ran in debt for it, were compelled, after years of hard toil and privation, to give up the struggle, thus losing the improvements they had made. When the land was once cleared and drained, it was found to be very productive, and in the character of its soil the township now ranks among the best in the county.

A substantial, two-story brick town hall was erected in the summer of 1870, at the center, costing four thousand five hundred dollars. The plan was drawn and the building erected by E. Kinney, architect and builder, living at Townsend center.

William Townsend, one of the original proprietors of the township, put up a block house at the center, in which he opened a store in 1822 or 1823. It was furnished from his store in Sandusky, which he established in the winter of 1819-20, bringing his first goods from New Haven, Connecticut, in a sleigh.

A store was subsequently kept here a short time by Kneeland Townsend, brother of William Townsend, and still later by James Arnold, who continued in merchandise for a number of years.

There are two villages in the township, of nearly equal size, called Townsend center and Collins, the latter situated on the railroad, half a mile north of the center. At Townsend center there are two churches, two stores, one millinery shop, one blacksmith shop, one school house, one sawmill, one bee-house, one violin manufacturer and one architect and builder.

At Collins there are one general store one grocery, one tin shop, one millinery store, one hotel, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, two shoe shops,

one harness shop, one broom factory, one pump factory, and one sawmill and bending works.

The pioneer mill of Townsend was established by William Burdue. He brought with him from Pennsylvania a pair of small millstones and set up a hand mill for grinding grain. The rude contrivance was a great convenience to the early settlers, who were thus saved many miles of travel, through dense woods to get their milling done.

The first wedding in Townsend was that of Dr. Lyman Fay, of Milan, and Miss Caroline Kellogg, daughter of Orisimus Kellogg, of this township. This event occurred at the house of the bride's father, July 21, 1816, David Abbott, Esq., tying the nuptial knot.

William and Elizabeth Burdue were the parents of the first white children born in the township. They were twins, were born in the year 1816, and lived only a few months. The next birth was that of Roxena Goodell, daughter of David and Electa Goodell. She was born June 19, 1817, married Amherst Ordway, January 24, 1838, and died in Wood county, Ohio, May 11, 1876. A birth also occurred in one of the Barber families in 1817.

David Sayre, was the first person that died in the township, but the date we are unable to give.

The first tavern was opened by Moses D. Fowler, in the southwest part of town, on the Medina road, about the year 1834. On the southeast corner of the cross roads, where the west line road intersects the Medina road, stands the old "Blue Fly" erected by William Thompson. It was originally painted blue. Some one facetiously dubbed it "the blue fly," and the place has been known by that name. Thompson kept it as a tavern for five or six years when he sold it to Theodore Williams, of Norwalk.

The first school house was built in the Barber settlement, about the year 1818. The first school teacher is not known with certainty, but is generally supposed to have been Jasper Miles, who taught a winter school. Miss Polly Barber kept the first summer school. Lucy Tenant was among the earliest school teachers in the township.

"The Western Reserve Union Institute," was established at Collins, in 1855, chiefly through the efforts of W. S. Hyde. The institution derived its support from the tuition of its pupils, and was not incorporated. It had an existence until about the year 1870, when the building was purchased by the township, and has since been used as a district school.

The first saw mill in this township was built by David Lee, in 1820. It was located on lot seventy-three, in the fourth section, on Rattlesnake creek. There are, at the present time, three saw mills in operation. The mill near the center was erected by James Arnold, in the winter of 1848-49. When completed, he sold it to William Humphrey, who operated it until his death, in 1874, when it passed into the hands of George Bargus, the present owner.

The sawmill of L. V. McKesson was established by Cyrus Minor, in 1856. He operated it for five or six years, when he sold to James McCullough, who, a year subsequently, moved the machinery away. A man by the name of Funk afterwards bought the building and fitted it up for a grist mill, which he carried on for three years, and then removed the machinery to Mt. Vernon.

Mrs. Caroline Fay gave the following account of their flight on hearing of Hull's surrender: "The sad news was announced at my father's dwelling at the hour of midnight of the 8th of July. The elder members of our family arose and set themselves to work immediately, making preparations to flee for their lives. At ten o'clock in the morning we were all ready and commenced our flight from the savage foe which we imagined was in close pursuit. We directed our course for Cuyahoga, Portage county. It had been raining quite hard all of the previous night. After traveling four or five miles we fell in company with four families of our acquaintance. We got twelve miles on our journey by dark, and pitched our tents and partook of our evening meal, and were obliged to spread our beds on the wet ground, and in the morning they were nearly covered with water caused by the rain that had fallen during the night. There we were, in an unbroken wilderness, and an unfrequented road of seventy-five miles to our place of destination. We were obliged to ford all the streams that lay in our path or to stop and cut trees and bridge those that were flooded by the recent rain. We were on our journey eight days and seven nights without seeing so much as a log cabin, expecting every night when we lay down to rest to be tomahawked and scalped before morning by the Indians. Many of the youth of our company were so much fatigued by travel that they could not stand alone when they first rose in the morning. One night we camped near a sugar camp where some one had made sugar the previous spring and spread our beds on some bark that was lying on the ground. To my astonishment, when I arose in the morning, I saw a blacksnake peeping out his head from under the bed that I had rested upon. On removing the bed the men killed seven large snakes."

WAKEMAN TOWNSHIP.

Wakeman township was named for Jesup Wakeman, one of the original proprietors of the land, and it still retains its original name.

It lies generally rolling, especially the east half, and was heavily timbered with oak, beech, maple, basswood, elm, black walnut, cherry, etc. The soil is clayey with a mixture of sand sufficient to make it easy to till.

Vermillion river enters the township from the south near the center of the town line, and running a wonderfully crooked course, passes about a mile east of the center and leaves the township a short distance west of the section line. Brandy creek enters the south line of the township, in the southwest part, and forms a junction with the Vermillion a short distance northeast of the center of the town. La Chapelle creek rises in Townsend, enters this township south of the center road and leaves it a mile and a quarter east of the northwest corner. The stream is said to have derived its name from a Frenchman by the name of De La Chapelle, who discovered and explored it to its source, long before the country was settled.

Wakeman was attached to Florence for township purposes until February, 1824, at which time, on petition of the inhabitants, it was set off by the county commissioners, and organized independently. The election was held at the log school house near Mr. Canfield's, in April following.

The first road was that along the west town line, called the "Reed road," a man of that name having opened it. The first road within the township was that along the line of the first settlements, called the New London road. It is a mile east of the west line road, and runs a generally north and south direction. It was opened by the settlers, being at first merely underbrushed and originally ran a more crooked course than it now does, in order to avoid swales and steep hills. The east and west center road was opened west of the center in 1825 or 1826, and east of the center a few years after.

The first religious meeting in Wakeman was held at the house of Augustin Canfield, Sunday evening, January 10, 1819. Rev. Lot B. Sullivan, a missionary, was the preacher. Mr. and Mrs. Canfield, Dr. Clark and wife led the singing. They were the pioneer choir of Wakeman for many years.

The first church organization was formed at the house of Mr. Pierce, October 25, 1822, by Rev. A. H. Betts and Rev. Joseph Treat. The society was of the Congregational order.

The first white child born in the township was Burton M. Canfield, April 18, 1818. The first girl baby born was Mary Smith, April, 1821.

The first wedding in Wakeman was that of Marshall Johnson and Marinda Bradley. They were married in October, 1820, at the house of Abram Bronson, Dr. Clark performing the ceremony. The next couple married was Nathaniel Hine, of Berlin, and Ruth Sherman, in the winter of 1821.

The first death in the township was that of Mrs. Hendricks, mother of Mrs. Abram Bronson, which occurred in 1820. The death of Mr. Bronson occurred a short time after that of Mrs. Hendricks.

The first burial ground was on the southwest corner of the crossroads, near where Mr. Mordoff later lived. Some of the bodies were afterwards taken up and removed to other burial grounds, and the former ground was abandoned for that purpose. The first interment in the cemetery at the center was that of Mrs. Justus Minor.

The first frame building in the township was the barn of Justin Sherman, in 1823. The first completed frame house was built by Mr. Sherman in 1827. The erection of a frame house had previously been commenced by Sheldon Barnes, but before it was finished, it was taken down and removed elsewhere.

The first public house was kept by Marcus French, a half mile west of the center on the section line.

The first regular train of cars ran through the township was on November 24, 1852.

The first and only murder committed in the township was in 1843. The victim was the wife of Alexander Lawtha. She was strangled to death by the hands of her husband, assisted by John Simpson, a neighbor. The body of the woman was thrown into a well, and when found, the prints of the fingers on her neck could be plainly seen. The murderers were convicted of the crime, and Lawtha was sentenced to the penitentiary for life, but before his removal to the county jail, he cut his throat with a razor, but before death he made a confession of his crime. Simpson was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of ten years, and served out his term.

The first settlers went to Esquire Merry's mill in Milan township to get their grinding done, a distance of fourteen miles as the road originally ran. Subsequently, and until the erection of a gristmill by Burton Canfield in 1824, they obtained their grist at Ruggles' mill in Florence, and at Husted's mill in Clarksfield. In 1823, Burton Canfield built a sawmill on the Vermillion, east of Wakeman village. The next year he added a frame grist mill with one run of stone. The mill stones were made out of the ordinary "hard head" stone by Elder Phillips, a pioneer Baptist preacher of Berlin. He took the job for thirty-five dollars, and realized less than a shilling a day, the stone proving harder than he had estimated.

A sawmill was built on the La Chapelle in 1823 by Justin Sherman. This and the Canfield mill were erected at the same time, but the Sherman mill sawed the first log. On the same stream there were formerly three other sawmills, one built by Esquire Pierce about the year 1833, one by C. C. Canfield in 1840, and one by B. M. Canfield in 1848. That of C. C. Canfield was in operation for thirty years, and did an extensive business.

The first school was opened by Mrs. Dr. Clark in her own house, in the summer of 1818. Her scholars were Calvert C., Royal R. and Sarah Ann Canfield; Lemuel B., Bennett and Minott Pierce. Mrs. Clark taught for one dollar per week, and boarded herself. Her wages were paid, not in money, but in the products of the soil, the usual legal tender in those early times. The school was also kept by Mrs. Clark in the log house of Mr. Canfield. The scholars would each carry an ear of corn to school which the teacher would boil for them, this constituting the only dinner they had. School was kept in Wakeman only a few weeks in the year, and the children, or at least the boys, the eldest of whom was not more than ten years of age, attended a school in Florence, traversing an unbroken forest for a distance of three miles. In the year 1820 the first school house was built, of logs of course, on the farm of Augustin Canfield.

The log school house served the double purpose of a place of teaching and a house of worship for about nine years, when it was replaced by a comfortable frame school house, twenty-two by twenty-six feet in size, with a genuine shingle roof. The meeting to consider the question of its erection was held at the old school house, January 29, 1829. Bela Coe was chosen moderator of the meeting, and Augustin Canfield, clerk. It was decided to build the house by a tax, the cost of which was to be one hundred and seventy dollars. Among other things it was resolved that "we will have a chimney in said house," that "a writing desk shall be attached to the side of the house," etc. It was also stipulated that the house should be opened on the Sabbath to the Congregational and Methodist churches, each to occupy it one-half of the time, "but if it so happens that one denomination does not want to occupy their half of the time, and the other does more, it shall be their privilege to do so." The house had a kind of dedication by a union service of the two churches on Christmas eve, 1829, the Rev. Xenophon Betts and True Pattee officiating on the occasion. The house was trimmed with evergreens and illuminated. The first teacher in the new school house was J. M. Root.

In the year 1829 the inhabitants of Wakeman attained to the felicity of a weekly mail. Isaac Todd and Cyrus Minor drew up, or caused to be drawn up,

a petition for the extension of the mail route from Grafton, Lorain county, to Norwalk, and carried it to Grafton to obtain the signatures of the settlers along the proposed route. After the mail was established, the settlers along the line turned out and under-brushed a road from Wakeman to Grafton. The first mail-carrier was one Cole, who carried the mail once a week, making his journeys on foot. The first trip he made through Wakeman he stopped at Isaac Todd's, whose house was the first on his route west of La Grange. No mail bag being visible, Mr. Todd inquired about it. "Oh, I've got it," replied the carrier, and he reached in his pocket and drew forth a large-sized *pocket-book*, on which was a padlock about the size of a silver half dollar. Mr. Todd, naturally taken aback at the apparent unimportance of the enterprise he had labored hard to establish, said: "You don't mean to say you carry the mail in that?" "Yes," rejoined Cole, "and it's large enough; *there's nothing in it!*" The route was established, and the mail-carrier had to make the trip, although there was not an item of mail to carry. It was not long, however, before a more capacious mail bag was substituted for the pocket-book.

A man by the name of Waldron afterwards carried the mail. He frequently stopped at Joseph French's, and on one occasion brought the family a piece of venison. On being asked where he got it he replied that he "shot the deer with the mail bag." He came upon the animal while browsing in the top of a fallen tree, struck it in the head with the bag, which so frightened the deer that he caught it and cut its throat with his knife.

The first postoffice was established January 1, 1833, with Justin Sherman, postmaster, who kept the office in his house. He served for seven years and three months, when he was succeeded by Merritt Hyde, and the office was moved to his dwelling, west of the center.

As already stated, Dr. Harmon M. Clark was the first physician that practiced in the township. He had been engaged in the practice of medicine before he came to this country, and was a surgeon or assistant surgeon in the United States navy in the War of 1812.

The first store in Wakeman was kept by Justin Sherman near the center, on lot forty-five. He erected the building in 1839, and sold the first goods on the third day of July, 1841. His goods were purchased in New York city, and transported by way of Hudson river, Erie canal and Lake Erie to Huron, and thence to Wakeman by team.

The principal species wild animals originally found in the forests of Wakeman, were the bear, deer, wolf, wild-cat and fox. Bears, though not numerous, were occasionally seen. Deer were very numerous, and were frequently captured. They were the settlers' main dependence for meat, while their skins were used as an article of clothing by the male inhabitants. Suits made wholly of buckskin were worn only when absolute necessity required, a single wetting and drying making them very uncomfortable. It was more generally used for facing the exposed portion of the pantaloons.

The first election of a school board, of which there is a record, occurred October 31, 1828, when Augustin Canfield was elected clerk; Justin Sherman, Philo Sherman and Samuel Bristol, directors.

Until 1827, the township constituted one school district. The location of the first school house being determined by the center of the population, it was built in the third section, as previously stated. In the spring of the above year a second school district was erected, embracing nearly three-fourths of the township, and a log school house built at the center of town. A few years after a frame school house was built there.

In regard to the character of her schools and school houses, Wakeman occupies a front rank among the townships of the county.

The first year of the settlement, wheat was two dollars and potatoes one dollar and seventy-five cents per bushel, pork thirty dollars per barrel, and oftener of the "shack" variety than otherwise. Until the land was brought under cultivation provisions were generally obtained in the surrounding earlier settlements.

The character of the population that took possession of Wakeman was of the genuine Yankee sort; they were, almost without exception, from Connecticut. Most of them came from Southbury, New Haven county, some from Litchfield and Fairfield counties, and a few from other parts of the State.

The first family to take up its abode in the wilderness was that of Augustin Canfield. Mr. Canfield started from New Milford, Litchfield county, with his wife and four children, his brother Burton Canfield, Seymour Johnson and his hired man, for the Firelands on the 29th day of April, 1817. While journeying through the "four-mile woods" west of Buffalo, the emigrants experienced a breakdown, one of the axletrees of the wagon breaking off at the wheel. The company fortunately possessed sufficient mechanical skill to repair the damage, cutting out a piece of timber from a tree and splicing it on to the remaining part of the axle, and thus completed the journey without further mishap.

Many anecdotes are related illustrative of the condition of the roads through Cattaraugus swamp, or, more particularly, that portion of it known by early settlers as the "four mile woods." A traveler, seeing a hat floating on the mud, procured a pole and tried to secure it, when a voice from below cried out, "Let me alone; I have a good horse under me, and I shall get through all right."

Mr. Canfield and his associates arrived in Wakeman on the 23d day of May, performing the long journey in about three weeks. He settled on lot number twenty-three in the third section, building his cabin near the location of the present residence of John G. Sherman. The house was fourteen feet square, built of rough logs, with a roof of elm bark and a floor of the same. Two large boxes, or trunks, placed together constituted the only table in the house, and upon which the scanty meal was spread. The house being without a fireplace, the cooking was done by a log fire outside. This primitive habitation was occupied about six weeks, when it was replaced by a more substantial log house, in which the family lived until 1822, when it was sold, with seventy acres on the south part of the lot, to Justin Sherman, Mr. Canfield taking up his residence on the north part of the same lot, where he spent the remainder of his life.

The next man that penetrated the forests of Wakeman was Amial P. Pierce. He arrived with his family, consisting of wife and four children, and a hired man, about three weeks after the Canfields, making the journey from Connecticut with an ox team. He made his location on the adjoining lot, number twenty-two. He always resided on this location.

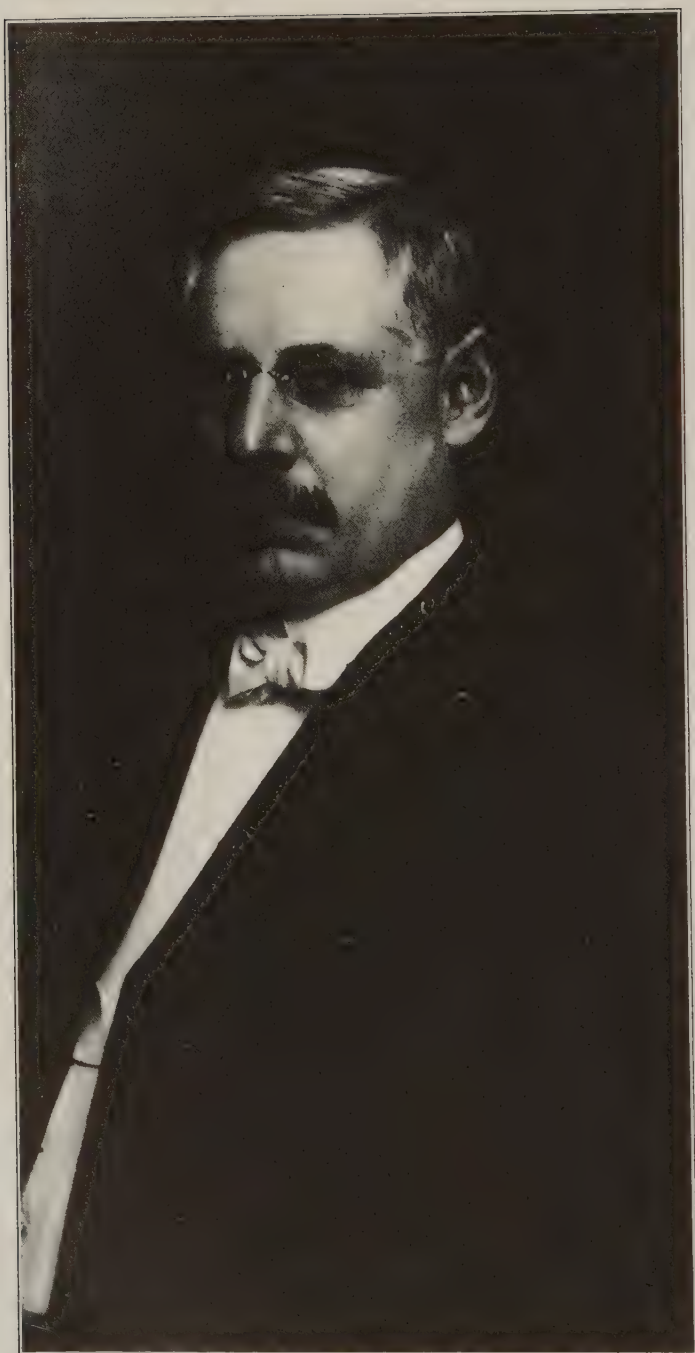
He was a man of large size and of great physical strength, excelling in this respect, any other of the pioneers with the exception of Mr. Bristol. He had borne the rank of captain in Connecticut, and the title was applied to him here for many years, and until that of "Squire," owing to his long service as justice of the peace, was substituted.

The first settlers found this township heavily timbered, the principal varieties being whitewood, white oak, beech, maple, black walnut, butternut, chestnut, hickory and basswood. On the river bottoms the sycamore, elm and sugar maple were chiefly found.

Among the early settlers of Wakeman township, were Barzilla S. Hendricks and family, in 1819. Abram Bronson and wife, in 1820. Sheldon Smith and family and Burton French, in 1820. Justus Minor and family, in 1821. Chester Manville and Peter Sherman, in 1822. And about the same time came Justin Sherman, Philo Sherman, Leveritt Hill, and others. In 1823, Merritt Hyde, Amos Clark. A few years later came Russell Barnes, William Beers, Sheldon Barnes, Rufus J. Bunce, Johnson Wheeler, Isaac Todd, Elias Bell, Martin Bell, Simeon Brown, Cyrus Strong, Lewis Beers, Bela Coe, Reuben Hall, Mr. Parsons. Also comparatively early in different portions of the township: John Brooks, Jabez Hanford, Hiram Rumsey, Henry T. Peck, Isaac Haskins, Dr. Curtis and Captain Bell.

WAKEMAN.

Wakeman is a town of considerable importance on the Lake Shore Railroad, eleven miles east of Norwalk. It supports a local paper, which is commendable, showing the intelligence of its people.



DR. E. N. HAWLEY

BIOGRAPHICAL

E. N. HAWLEY, M. D.

Having made careful preparation for the practice of medicine Dr. Hawley is now successfully following his profession in Norwalk, his ability bringing him prominently before the public in this connection. A native of Erie county, Ohio, he was born August 18, 1856. His father, Noah M. Hawley, was born in Connecticut and went to Rochester, New York, with his parents, removing thence to Erie county, Ohio, when twenty years of age. On this trip he also accompanied his parents and his father Allen Hawley, died in Erie county at the advanced age of eighty-four years. He served as a general in the Revolutionary war, giving effective aid to the colonists in their struggle for independence. He came of the same family as the Hawleys, well known in Connecticut. In Ohio Noah M. Hawley turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits and throughout the remainder of his life was connected with farming interests in Erie county, being numbered among the representative tillers of the soil in that portion of the state. He died in 1888, at the age of seventy-six years, having long survived his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Olive Sayles and who passed away in Erie county in 1845. Later he married again, his second union being with Abigail Mowry. Dr. Hawley of this review, has one own sister, Laura, and three half-sisters and one half-brother—Dr. Charles A. Hawley, now living in Washington, D. C.

In the country schools Dr. E. N. Hawley pursued his early education and afterward attended the normal school at Milan, Ohio. He then taught in a district school for two years and for one year was employed as a teacher in the Milan Normal College, but he regarded this merely as a preliminary step to other professional labor for it was his purpose to become a member of the medical fraternity. He studied medicine for one year in the Bellevue Medical College of New York city, after which he went to Ann Arbor, Michigan, and matriculated in the medical department of the State University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1881. He then commenced practice in Sandusky, where he continued for a year, and subsequently spent six years in Wakeman, Huron county, but seeking a broader field of labor he removed to the county seat

and for twenty years has been successfully following his profession in Norwalk.

His ability in his chosen field of labor is widely recognized, both by the members of the medical fraternity and the general public. He is very careful in the diagnosis of a case, is conscientious in the performance of all professional duties and in all of his work is actuated by a broad spirit of humanitarianism. The scientific side of the profession also makes strong appeal to him and he closely studies every phase of his work, keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress as manifested in the work of the medical fraternity. He belongs to the County and State Medical Society, the Cleveland Academy of Medicine, and the American Medical Association.

In 1900 Dr. Hawley was united in marriage to Miss Abbie Riley, a daughter of John Riley, an old resident of Norwalk. They have one son, Edwin Charles Riley, born October 3, 1904. Dr. Hawley is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias and other organizations. He has been termed a good man and a good citizen—a high measure of praise, indicating as it does fidelity and honor in all the relations of public and private life.

HON. GEO. T. THOMAS

Hon. George T. Thomas, ex-speaker of the Ohio house of representatives and recognized as one of the republican leaders of the state, is now engaged in the practice of law at Norwalk, where he has followed his profession since April, 1887, save for the period of his service as probate judge. He was born at Greenwich, Ohio, September 11, 1856, and is a son of Uri Baker and Ellen (McOmber) Thomas. The former was born October 24, 1818, and was a son of George and Adeline (Baker) Thomas. George Thomas was born in Rhode Island, May 9, 1795, and on the 16th of August, 1812, married Adeline Baker in Otsego county, New York. She was born November 25, 1796. They reared a family of nine children and Mr. Thomas became a well-to-do farmer of Otsego county, New York. About 1858 he removed westward to Ohio and settled on a farm in Greenfield township, Huron county. Throughout his entire life he carried on general agricultural pursuits and he died at Greenwich, November 5, 1882. He had long survived his wife, who died April 30, 1859. Their children were as follows: an infant daughter, who was born September 4, 1813, and died the same day; another daughter, who was born and died on the 14th of March, 1815; George Hull, who was born April 15, 1816, and died in February, 1905; Uri Baker, the father of George T. Thomas; Levi Ward, who was born January 19, 1821, and died in 1861; a son, who was born and died June 3, 1823; Sylvanus Ward, who was born January 20, 1825, and died in May, 1885; Washington Lafayette, born April 15, 1827; Adeline Alvira, born March 30, 1829; Andrew Jackson, who was born February 3, 1832, and died November 9, 1891; Lucena Icebenda, born February 24, 1835; and Walter B. Wallace, who was born December 18, 1839, and died April 4, 1862.

Of this family Uri Baker Thomas, the father of our subject, was a farmer by occupation and in addition to tilling the soil he raised and dealt in live stock and in wool. He was married April 16, 1849, to Miss Ellen R. McOmber, who was born May 21, 1829, near Castleton, Vermont. Both acquired a fair education in the schools of their native states, but neither were college graduates. Mr. Thomas came to Ohio in the year 1846 and settled on his farm in Greenwich township, Huron county, where he continued to live until his death, July 14, 1904. He long survived his wife who passed away March 25, 1861. By his first marriage there were born five children: Orr Uri, who was born May 30, 1850, and died February 10, 1904; Spencer, who was born in 1852 and died in infancy; George T., of this review; Dora Ellen, who was born August 16, 1858 and died in May, 1887; and Luna A., who was born in 1860 and died in infancy. The mother of these children having departed this life in 1861, the father was married in 1864 to Miss Myra B. Stowe. Their children were Walter S., who died in infancy; and Myra Augusta. The latter was born June 3, 1869, and is now the wife of Professor Lewis E. Akeley, of the University of South Dakota, at Vermillion, that state.

George T. Thomas attended the district schools and also the preparatory schools of Oberlin college. Later he was a student in the preparatory department of Buchtel college, at Akron, Ohio. He spent about a year in each place but did not graduate and in addition to the common branches he studied algebra, plain geometry, physical geography, Greene's analysis of the English language, physics, or the elements of philosophy, history, and later under Professor Mattison at Berea, Ohio, studied Latin to some extent. He has since supplemented his studies by considerable reading and by the study of law. After leaving school he was a teacher in the common or district schools for a number of terms, covering a period of about four years, this being his initial step in professional service.

On the 10th of April, 1880, Mr. Thomas was united in marriage to Miss Emma J. Miller, a resident of Fairfield township, Huron county, and removed from his father's farm to the village of Greenwich in August, 1880. While engaged in teaching school he took up the study of law and after thorough preliminary reading was admitted to the bar February 2, 1886. He removed from the village of Greenwich to Norwalk in 1887 and here entered upon the practice of law, which he has followed continuously since save for six years, during which time he was probate judge of Huron county, so acting from February 9, 1891, until February 9, 1897. In his practice he is regarded as a safe counsellor and a strong advocate, his arguments being based upon a reasonably comprehensive knowledge of the law, while his application of legal principles is correct. His ability has brought him into prominence among the foremost representative citizens of this section of the state.

Mr. Thomas has long been recognized as one of the prominent representatives of the republican party in this part of Ohio. He has been called upon to fill various local offices and later higher political honors have awaited him. He served as mayor of the village of Greenwich from 1882 until 1884; was township clerk of Greenwich township for one term, in 1884-5; was a member of the board of education of the Greenwich village district in 1885; and treasurer of the board for one term. In 1891 he was chosen probate judge and by reelection was con-

tinued in the office for six years. For three terms he represented Huron county in the state legislature, taking his seat on the 1st of January, 1900, and thus serving until January 1, 1906. During the last term of two years, from January 1, 1904, until January 1, 1906, he was the speaker of the Ohio house of representatives. A strict parliamentarian, his rulings were always just, fair and equitable, winning him the respect of the opposition as well as the members of his own party. He has been an influencing power in republican politics in Ohio for many years and served as chairman of the Huron county republican executive committee for three years, from 1894 until 1896 inclusive. His opinions carry weight in party counsels and he is recognized as a public speaker of ability and is clear, strong and convincing in argument in any position he assumes.

On the 10th of April, 1880, Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Emma J. Miller, at Norwalk, Ohio. She is a daughter of John and Sarah (Jones) Miller, of an English family who emigrated from England about the year 1849 and settled in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio. They reared a family of nine children, six sons and three daughters, and Mrs. Thomas, who is the eldest daughter, was born December 13, 1859. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thomas has been born an only child, Alton O. Thomas, who is a graduate of the Norwalk high school and of the Buchtel college at Akron, Ohio, of the class of 1902.

Mr. Thomas is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having taken the degrees of the subordinate lodge and the encampment. He has twice been representative in the grand lodge and also in the grand encampment for two terms. He is now past counsellor in the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias and belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He is an alert, enterprising man, quickly utilizing the opportunities which are presented in the legal and in the political arena, and in a profession where advancement must depend entirely upon individual merit he has attained high rank.

ORRIN M. DOANE.

Orrin M. Doane, a well known and prosperous resident of Bronson township, has been engaged in operating machinery for the threshing and pressing of hay throughout the greater part of his business career. He was born on the 7th of February, 1851, a son of Elon Doane, who in early manhood made his way from New York to Ohio, becoming one of the first settlers of Huron county. The district was still largely wild and undeveloped but with characteristic energy he set to work, cleared a tract of land for farming purposes and was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. When he was called to his final rest in 1892 the community mourned the loss of one of its most worthy and respected pioneer residents. He and his wife reared a family of six sons and three daughters.

Orrin M. Doane attended the common schools in pursuit of an education and on starting out in life on his own account took up the work of general farming. During the greater portion of his business career, however, he has devoted his attention to the operation of machinery for the threshing and pressing of hay,

making extensive purchases of hay, which he presses and bales and then sells to shippers. In all of his undertakings he has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity, owing to his untiring industry and capable management and is widely recognized as one of the substantial, progressive and representative citizens of his community.

On the 23d of December, 1873, Mr. Doane was united in marriage to Miss Harriet A. Templer, whose birth occurred May 11, 1856. Her father, Valentine Templer, was born in Rotterdam, Schenectady county, New York, on the 12th of May, 1832, being the youngest of nine children. On the 29th of December, 1853, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Christie Ann McDonald, whose birth occurred in Schenectady, New York, April 27, 1828, and by whom he had six children. In 1865 he brought his family to Ohio and continued an honored and respected resident of Huron county until the time of his demise, which occurred in 1895. Though not affiliated with any church, he was a man of high moral character, whose exemplary life well entitled him to the regard and esteem which were uniformly accorded him. His wife passed away at her home in Olena on the 13th of July, 1906. The marriage of Orrin M. and Harriet A. (Templer) Doane has been blessed with the following children: Arthur E., who was born July 1, 1874; George L., whose natal day was September 26, 1878; Mrs. Anna M. Garner, who was born on the 11th of December, 1880; and Roy V., whose birth occurred January 14, 1894. The family are well known in the county and Mr. Doane and his wife have many warm friends who esteem them for their genuine worth and many good qualities.

HENRY K. WHITE.

Henry K. White, a substantial and representative farmer of Bronson township, was born September 25, 1846, in Steuben, Greenfield township, Huron county. He is a son of William White, who was born in St. Clairsville, Ohio, February 15, 1811, and was a son of Nathaniel and Nancy A. White. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade and built the courthouse at Sandusky, Ohio, about 1833. He afterward removed to Huron county where he cut the timber and built a log house for himself. As the years passed and the country became thickly settled his carefully managed business affairs made him quite a wealthy man. He married Lucy Holland, who was born in Ireland July 2, 1814, a daughter of John Holland, who came from the Emerald Isle to Ohio. In the family of William and Lucy (Holland) White were the following children: Thomas, Lewis, Frances, Maria, Samuel, Henry, Fred, Jane and Charles.

Henry K. White has spent his entire life in this county, where he was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. His life has been a busy and useful one, his business affairs being capably managed so that he has won a fair measure of success. He has also been quite active in other lines. He has always been a democrat in politics, taking an active and helpful interest in the party. He is associated with his brother, Fred A. White, in the ownership of a farm on which they

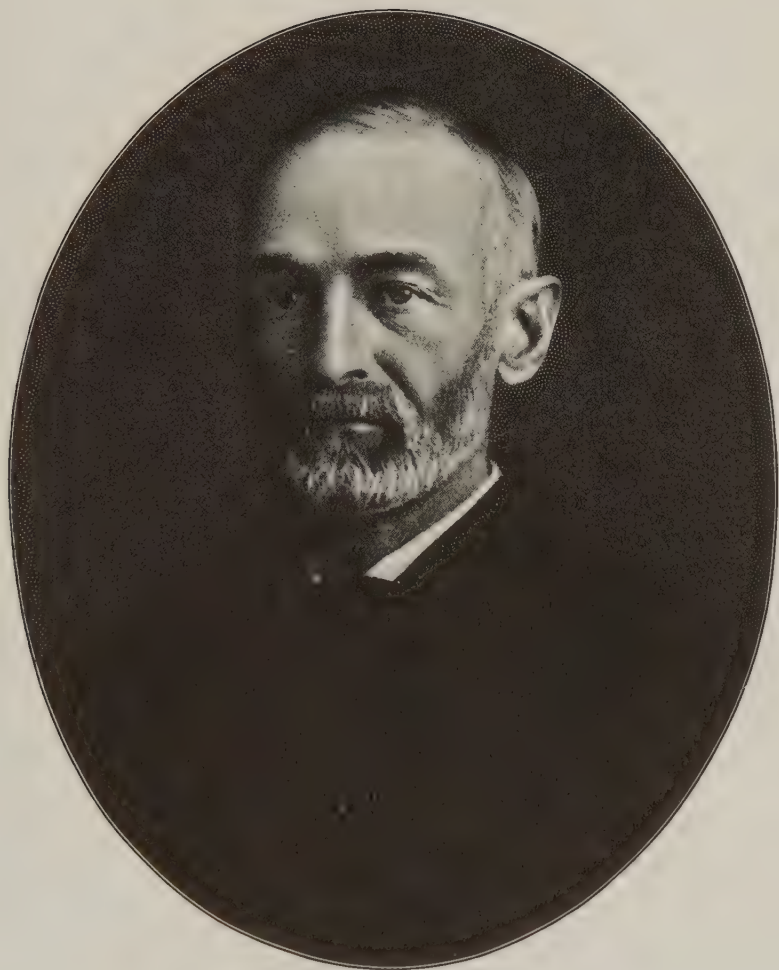
live and they also have the agency for various kinds of fertilizers, having been connected with that line of business for more than ten years. They have also handled agricultural implements and machinery and have been very successful in that branch of their business. They also have some good track horses and some well bred colts.

Fred A. White, his brother's partner in business, was born in Greenfield township, Huron county, April 6, 1856, and was reared in the usual manner of farm lads who divide their time between the acquirement of an education and the work of the farm. On the 12th of December, 1878, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Kennedy, who was born in September, 1856. She is a daughter of John and Priscilla (Fitzgerald) Kennedy, of Richland county, Ohio. They have become the parents of a daughter, Minnie May, who was born July 13, 1880, and is now the wife of Claude A. Terry, of Elyria, Ohio. Fred A. White and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and his political allegiance is given to the democracy, but he never seeks nor desires office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He and his brother have resided upon the farm where they now live for forty-six years and keep the property in most modern and up-to-date shape. They are well known as excellent farmers and horsemen and their business affairs, capably conducted, are winning for them substantial financial reward.

DAVID B. NIMS.

David B. Nims, a farmer of Lyme township, Huron county, and the owner of one hundred and seventy-five acres of land that lies partly in this county and partly in Erie, was born on this farm, November 18, 1841, the son of Worthington and Betsy (Barnard) Nims. Both parents were born in Shelborn, Massachusetts, 1803 being the year of the father's birth. He came to this part of the country with his father at the age of twenty, selecting Strong's Ridge as his first abiding place. A few years later, he bought the farm his son now lives upon. Here he built first a log cabin, which he replaced some time later by a frame house, built on that section of the farm that lay in Groton township, Erie county, for the line dividing that county from Huron, passes through the farm. In this house, David B. Nims was born, but as the years passed and brought their measure of success in increased returns from the soil, this frame house ceased to satisfy, and Mr. Nims built a third house, a large and substantial one, which is now the home of his son and has well withstood the wear of time. Three children were born to Mr. Nims: William, deceased; Helen, the wife of Melvin Wood; and David B. He was a man prominent in the work of the Lyme Congregational church and when death called him, in 1896, he left many to regret his loss.

David B. Nims has always lived in Lyme township with the exception of a very short period. His education was derived in the district schools, but the more vital lessons for his preparation for life were obtained at home under the wise guidance of his parents. From his childhood, he has been learning the things that meant success in a farmer's life and wittingly chose agriculture as his vocation in life. When he first left the tutelage of the home and engaged in farming for himself, it was on a farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Milan, Ohio. After



DAVID B. NIMS

a year's residence upon this, he sold it to purchase another, of one hundred and forty-five acres, in Huron county, buying it of Mr. Burr. Upon this, he lived and worked for perhaps ten years, when he was called home by the death of his brother to take charge of the farm where he has lived ever since, during the time having made many improvements that have increased the value of the land.

In November, 1866, Mr. Nims was united in marriage to Miss Sabra Stebbins, a daughter of Alfred and Eliza (Fanning) Stebbins of Lyme township. One child has been born to the couple, Alfred Nims, whose birth occurred on the 20th of September, 1870. When he grew to manhood, he married Miss Jessie Wills, a daughter of George Wills. The couple make their home with his father on the farm.

Mr. Nims and his family are staunch members of the Lyme Congregational church, and in their daily lives put in practice those things which are taught especially on the first day of the week. A member of the older generation of those who till the soil, Mr. Nims is yet active in all his work and progressive, being quick to see and grasp any opportunity that will mean the improvement of his land and an increase in the returns that it will render him.

MERRITT H. HYDE.

Merritt H. Hyde, a well known and successful agriculturist of Wakeman township, where he owns an excellent tract of land comprising ninety-two acres, has also been extensively engaged in threshing since 1895. This farm has remained his place of residence from his birth to the present time, his natal day being August 7, 1862. His parents were Merritt M. and Elizabeth (Church) Hyde. The paternal grandfather, Merritt Hyde, came with his family to Huron county from Connecticut in 1816, making the entire journey by ox team. The farm on which he took up his abode is the one which is now in possession of our subject. At the time of his arrival here, there were only thirteen white people in Wakeman township and the land was all covered with timber. He traded his Connecticut property for Firelands in this county and became possessed of about four hundred acres of land at one time, on which not a stick had been cut. The first necessary task was the erection of a cabin home and with the assistance of the few neighbors a rude dwelling was soon constructed. Then began the work of cutting down the trees and preparing the land for cultivation and, by dint of hard and unrelenting labor, this, too, was accomplished. Merritt Hyde was a man of strong character, who faced the hardships and privations of pioneer existence with undaunted courage and a resolute spirit. The country was yet thickly populated with Indians and he did considerable trading with the red men. For a time he served as an Indian agent for the government and his official duties sometimes called him as far as the head of Lake Superior. In those early days he often found the struggle for existence a difficult one, but as time passed by and the district was gradually opened up to civilization, his efforts were rewarded with success and he became a prosperous and influential citizen, possessing a large fortune at the time of his death. His labors proved an important factor

in the work of early development and upbuilding and when he was called to his final rest on the 1st of May, 1876, at the age of eighty-one years, the county mourned the loss of one of its most respected and honored pioneer settlers. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sallie Boyd, passed away on the 2d of February, 1889, when she had attained the venerable age of ninety-four years and ten months. Both lie buried in the Wakeman cemetery. Mr. Merritt of this review regards as one of his most prized possessions an old family bible tracing the ancestral record back to 1724.

Merritt M. Hyde, the father of Merritt H. Hyde, is a native of Huron county, being born on the farm which continued his home as long as he remained a resident of this community. He followed general agricultural pursuits while living here and was widely recognized as a prominent and representative citizen of Wakeman township. In the year 1883 he removed with his wife and daughter to San Antonio, Texas, and subsequently took up his abode in Fort Worth, that state, devoting his attention to the work of farming. At the end of about two years' residence in the Lone Star state he went to Elkmont, Limestone county, Alabama, where he has since made his home. In addition to general agricultural pursuits he is also engaged in the sawmill business, meeting with well merited success in his undertakings. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Church, was a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, and in early life came to Ohio with her parents. She is now deceased, her demise having occurred on the 7th of September, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt M. Hyde reared a family of three children, the record of whom is as follows: Merritt H., whose name initiates this review, was the first in order of birth. William D., a resident of Memphis, Tennessee, has been on the river for almost twenty years and has been a captain on the Lee line of boats on the lower rivers for a number of years. Sarah F. is the wife of Thomas Compton, who is associated in business with her father in Alabama.

Merritt H. Hyde was reared on his father's farm and obtained his education in the public schools of Wakeman. As stated above, he has always continued to reside on the place where he was born and throughout his entire business career he has devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, his farm comprising ninety-two acres of rich and arable land adjoining the village of Wakeman. In 1895 he bought a steam threshing outfit and every season since then has been extensively engaged in threshing, his operations covering Wakeman, Townsend, Clarksville and other nearby townships. He has threshed in a single season as high as fifty-five thousand bushels of grain, while his average record is fully forty thousand bushels yearly. Alert, enterprising and progressive, he has won a gratifying measure of prosperity in his business interests and is well known and highly esteemed as a prosperous and substantial citizen of his native county.

Mr. Hyde has been married twice. On the 2d of July, 1887, he wedded Miss Martha Wood, a daughter of James and Sarah Wood, of Elkmont, Alabama. The child born of this union, May E., is now the wife of Werner McCorn, of Decatur, Alabama. Mrs. Martha Hyde passed away December 2, 1889, and on the 8th of April, 1893, Mr. Hyde was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Beam, a daughter of Ephraim and Sarah (Kessler) Beam,

of Wakeman township. Ephraim Beam died on the 5th of March, 1908, but his widow still survives and resides in Wakeman. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hyde have been born three children, namely: Cora, who is now deceased; Hazel L.; and Merritt L.

Politically Mr. Hyde is a stanch democrat but does not seek office as a reward for his party fealty, preferring to give his undivided attention to his private business affairs. He has an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community in which his entire life has been spent, and is well entitled to mention in this volume as a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family of Huron county.

GEORGE STOLL.

This gentleman is one of the general farmers and breeders of fine stock in Wakeman township. He is of German birth, from Reinfeldt, Germany, born September 20, 1866, his parents being Joseph and Catherine (Stork) Stoll. They never came to free America, preferring to remain in their own Deutschland.

In 1882 Mr. Stoll landed in Cleveland, but soon went to Henrietta, Lorain county, Ohio, and took up agriculture. The year 1897 saw him in Huron county, near Wakeman, in his present home. In 1890 he considered himself ready to wed, and on October 2d, married Miss Catherine Delafield, of Erie county, the daughter of Anthony and Margaret (Needing) Delafield. Mr. and Mrs. Stoll have a family of two daughters and two sons: Mary, Margaret, William and Harry.

George Stoll believes in progress in all things, and his thoroughly tiled farm and fine modern home, with first-class buildings, testify to the success of his theories. His holdings amount to one hundred and forty-three acres of fine, tillable land, and under the hand of this specialist in fine crops and blooded draft horses, keeps itself in fine trim. His breeding of draft horses has produced some highly commendable specimens of horse flesh.

Although Mr. Stoll is German born, he has become a thoroughly acclimated American, voting the democratic ticket. He is a member of Wakeman Tent, No. 93, Knights of the Maccabees, and is highly respected for his sturdy German traits and his consistent position on the side of improvement and progress.

BENJAMIN BRECKENRIDGE WICKHAM.

Among the younger and more successful members of the Huron county bar, thus representing a profession which has ever had important bearing upon the stable progress and prosperity of every community, is numbered Ben B. Wickham, who was born in Norwalk, October 28, 1875. He is a representative of an old New England family founded in America in early colonial days. His

father, Frederick C. Wickham, was born in Norwalk in the house on Main street, which is still standing and which was erected in 1836. The natal day of Frederick C. Wickham was August 5, 1842. His father, Frederick Wickham, Sr., was born in New York city, March 7, 1812, and was for years a sailor on the great lakes, holding official rank in that connection. During 1842 he came to Norwalk and established his home. He had married Lucy Bancroft Preston, a daughter of Samuel Preston, who came from Nashua, New Hampshire, and was a prominent citizen and pioneer newspaper man of Huron county. He established the Norwalk Reflector, one of the oldest newspapers of the state. The Preston family has long been a prominent one in America and gave to the colonies five governors.

Frederick C. Wickham was educated in the public schools of this city and in 1862, when twenty years of age, enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment, with which he continued for three years. He was first commissary and afterward became first lieutenant. At Winchester he was captured and remained for seven months in Confederate prisons. Later he was again captured by General Mosby's men near Charleston. He never faltered in the performance of any military duty whether it carried him to the firing line or placed him on the lonely picket line, and when the war was over he was honorably discharged and mustered out in June, 1865. He then returned to Norwalk, where he has since lived, being numbered throughout the intervening years with the prominent, influential and valued residents of the city. Few men have taken a more active part or had more direct influence upon the upbuilding and progress of the community. For eight years he served as postmaster, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. For many years he has been in the printing business and in this connection has been the champion of every movement or measure destined to advance the city's welfare and improvement. In 1865 he was married to Miss Susan C. Adams, a daughter of George Quincy Adams, who at one time served as probate judge of Huron county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Wickham were born a daughter and two sons: Charlotte, now the wife of Frank H. Jones, of Bay City, Texas; Ralph Preston, who died May 19, 1895, at the age of twenty-five years; and Benjamin Breckenridge.

The last named is indebted to the public-school system of Norwalk for the early educational advantages he enjoyed, passing through consecutive grades until he was graduated from the high school with the class of 1892. He afterward entered the Western Reserve University and was graduated in 1896 from Adelbert College. He taught school for four years, spending one year in the high school at Akron and one year in the high school at Fremont. He also taught for two years in Culver Military Academy, at Lake Maxinkuckee, Indiana. Believing, however, that he would prefer the profession of law as a life work, he pursued a course with this end in view in the Western Reserve University and was graduated with the degree of LL. B. in June, 1903. He was admitted to the bar in December, 1902. In February, 1903 he entered upon the active practice of his profession in Norwalk and for a year was a partner of Judge F. H. Jones, but has since been alone, his individual merit, diligence, enterprise and thorough understanding of legal principles being the chief concomi-

tants in his enviable success. In the preparation of his cases he has always prepared for defense as well as attack and in his practice has been absolutely fair, never indulging in artifice or concealment, never dealing in indirect methods but winning his victories, which have been many, and suffering his defeats, which have been few, in the open field face to face with his foe. He convinces by his concise statements of law and facts rather than by word painting and so high is the respect for his legal ability and integrity that his assertions in the court are seldom questioned seriously.

On the 16th of October, 1906, at Bellevue, Ohio, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wickham and Miss Marguerite L. Asay, a native of Chicago, Illinois, and a daughter of William C. Asay, an attorney of that city. Her grandfather, Dr. Amos Woodward, was one of the best known pioneer citizens of Bellevue, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Wickham have two sons: Woodward Adams, born August 15, 1907, and Gurdon Frederick, born June 24, 1909. In his fraternal relations Mr. Wickham is a Mason, belonging to Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 64, F. & A. M., and Huron Chapter, No. 7, R. A. M., and is also connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Royal Arcanum and the Knights of the Maccabees. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and since 1907 he has been referee in bankruptcy for Huron county. He is not a politician in the sense of office seeking, however, but manifests a deep interest in the science of government and believes in practical politics which causes the individual to uphold the principles and measures which he deems most beneficial in promoting the general good.

L. E. SIMMONS.

L. E. Simmons, the enterprising editor of the Chicago Times, published at Chicago Junction, Ohio, was born in Monroeville, this state, on the 23d of December, 1869, a son of George and Mary Whaley Simmons, who were natives of England. The father became a resident of Monroeville in the '40s and there the family home was established. He conducted a successful grocery business until his death and was recognized as one of the representative merchants of that locality.

L. E. Simmons acquired his education in the schools of Monroeville and in Michigan, living in the latter state for some years with an elder sister. He then turned his attention to his chosen work and has since been identified with newspaper interests. He was in Monroeville for one year with his brother and subsequently went to Norwalk, where for four years he was connected with the Laning Printing Company. Recognizing the fact that there was a good opening at Chicago Junction, he came to this place in 1894 and entered upon journalistic work here as proprietor of the Chicago Times. He has since made good in every sense of the term. The paper was established in 1883 and in eleven years changed hands three times. It was not regarded as a successful venture when he took charge of it but he has made it a credit to the town and county and has demonstrated what can be done by a man who knows and tries.

His previous experience in the printing business had given him thorough and practical knowledge of both the mechanical part and the requirements of newspaper editing and he now sends to his subscribers—and the number is constantly increasing—a clean and interesting journal, devoted to the dissemination of local and general news.

Mr. Simmons was married in 1899 to Miss Julia Simmermacher, a native of Chicago Junction and a daughter of William Simmermacher, one of the pioneers here. They now have two children, Walter and Evelyn. Mr. Simmons is an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity and is also identified with the Knights of Pythias. His religious faith is in harmony with the teachings of the Presbyterian church, in which he holds membership. In politics he is an independent republican, standing in strong opposition to anything like misrule in public affairs, believing in clean politics and in competent and honest men in office. He is stalwart in his opposition to corruption and machine rule and has had an influential part in placing politics upon a higher plane. He works for the good of the town first, last and always, placing public welfare before partisanship and the interests of the community before personal aggrandizement, the nature and quality of his citizenship being unquestioned, for his patriotism and public spirit are factors easily recognizable in his career.

JOHN WHITMAN.

A feeling of sadness spread throughout Townsend township when on the 30th of January, 1907, it was announced that John Whitman had passed from this life, for he was long numbered among the substantial and worthy citizens of that section of Huron county. He was born in Euchenberg, Lorraine, France, February 17, 1829, a son of Peter and Catherine Whitman, who spent their entire lives in that country. The son accompanied an uncle, Sebastian Remlinger, to the United States in 1847, being then a youth of eighteen years. He made his first location in Crawford county, Ohio, where he spent a year at farm labor and then took up his abode in Erie county, where he followed similar pursuits. It was while living in the latter place that he formed the acquaintance of Miss Abigail H. Richardson, whom he afterward made his wife, their marriage being celebrated on the 25th of September, 1864. She is a daughter of Joseph and Miranda (Sweet) Richardson, who were natives of Oxford township, Erie county. The father came to the Buckeye state from Pennsylvania after he had reached years of maturity and here engaged in general agricultural pursuits. Her maternal grandfather, William Sweet, came to Huron county from Monroe county, New York, and settled in New London township. There he planted the first orchard in the township, raising a large number of apple trees from the seed. He remained here until 1831 and then removed to Erie county, this state.

Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Whitman located in Wood county, but only spent a year there, after which they spent two years in Norwalk, Mr. Whitman being employed in a large warehouse in that city. In 1868, believing that farm life would prove more congenial to him, he purchased the farm which is



MR. AND MRS. JOHN WHITMAN

still in possession of his family, the place comprising one hundred and thirty-five acres of rich land. In 1879, he erected a modern and substantial brick residence, which is yet considered one of the best in Townsend township. For many years, Mr. Whitman gave his time and attention to the cultivation and improvement of his farm and was numbered among the substantial residents of this section of the county.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Whitman was blessed with three children, but only two of the number now survive: Tena H., the wife of Barton Rhoads, who lives with her mother, Mr. Rhoads operating the farm; and Cora M., at home.

Mr. Whitman was a staunch supporter of the republican party and for many years, served as road supervisor and as a member of the school board. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic church, but after coming to America, was identified with no denomination. His fraternal relations connected him with Norwalk Lodge, I. O. O. F. In his daily life, he closely followed the principle of the Golden Rule and was numbered among the progressive and public-spirited men of the community. He lived to a good old age, passing away when seventy-eight years old, and thus the county lost one of its most honored citizens, while his family mourn the loss of one who was most devoted to their welfare.

GEORGE E. BARNEY.

George E. Barney is busily engaged in the cultivation and improvement of his fine farm of seventy-three acres in New London township. He was born in that township on the 3d of June, 1856, his parents being Edson P. and Sarah (Sprague) Barney. The father's birth occurred on the 11th of December, 1828, and the mother first opened her eyes to the light of day in the year 1827. Edson P. Barney passed away in New London on the 12th of March, 1898, having long survived his wife, who was called to her final rest in 1865.

George E. Barney attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education that would equip him for the practical and responsible duties of life. He lost his mother when a little lad of nine years and then went to live with his aunt and grandfather. After the death of the latter he made his home with his father until the time of his marriage. He then purchased his present farm of seventy-three acres in New London township, and his aunt, who came to live with him, made her home thereon until her demise. He has erected modern and commodious buildings and has placed many substantial improvements on the property, so that it is now lacking in none of the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. He is practical in his methods and as the result of his work in the fields he yearly harvests good crops, for which he finds a ready sale on the market.

On the 25th of December, 1878, Mr. Barney was united in marriage to Miss Carrie J. Fenn, whose birth occurred in Sullivan, Ohio, June 27, 1859. Her parents, Kimball T. and Philena (Sutton) Fenn, were born in the years 1827 and 1837 respectively and celebrated their marriage in 1857. They made their way to California when their daughter, Carrie J., was but five years of age, and

after a residence of four years in the Golden state the mother was stricken with smallpox and died very suddenly. A month later the father also died of the same disease, so that Mrs. Barney was left alone in the world when a little maiden of nine years. She was at that time boarding with a family by the name of Mosier, with whom her father had placed her at the time of the mother's death. Subsequent to the demise of her father, her maternal grandfather, Alanson Sutton, sent a Mr. Golden to the Mosiers for his little granddaughter but they refused to give her up. The necessary papers were at once served through the sheriff, who took the child to Mr. Golden with whom she remained for five weeks or until the Union Pacific Railroad was constructed to Ohio. She made the journey from California to this state alone, riding part of the time on the engine and part of the time in the coach. Many took a friendly interest in the little orphan and her trip was rendered very pleasant by their kindly assistance. At the end of a week she reached Toledo, where she was joined by her grandfather, Mr. Sutton, by whom she was reared until she had attained the age of fourteen years. She then entered the home of a second cousin, Mr. Berry, where she remained until the time of her marriage to George E. Barney. She is now the mother of five children, as follows: Ross E., who was born June 23, 1880; Mrs. Nina Jones, whose birth occurred October 22, 1883; May, born February 9, 1886; Mrs. Lena Robertson, whose natal day was October 31, 1887; and George Fenn, who was born on the 9th of May, 1897.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Barney has cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party, being convinced that its principles are most conducive to good government. Having spent his entire life in this county, he is most widely and favorably known within its borders and that his career has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his staunchest friends.

LEWIS J. HAAS.

Lewis J. Haas is one of the young and representative farmers of Sherman township, where he owns and operates sixty-eight acres of land, and as the name indicates he is of German descent. He was born on a farm in this township, March 5, 1875, a son of George and Minnie (Hankamemer) Haas. The former was born in Peru township, December 27, 1839, of the marriage of Jacob and Dora (Berringer) Haas, who were natives of Germany and on coming to the United States in 1834 settled on a tract of land of seventeen acres in Peru township, Huron county. This land was partly cleared but the grandfather further developed and improved it, built thereon a small frame house and in due time added to his holdings until he owned thirty-one acres. They reared a family of seven children, namely: Sophia, who became the wife of Fred Mitchell and both are now deceased; Lena, who was married twice, her first husband being Joseph Duffner and her second John Setchler, who is also deceased, her home being in Kansas; Mary, who became the wife of John Setchler and both have

departed this life; Jacob, who resides in Monroeville, Huron county; Elizabeth, the widow of Adam Glasier, her home being in Norwalk; Anna, the deceased wife of Jacob Schwam; and George, the father of our subject.

The last named was reared on the farm in Peru township and pursued his education in the district schools near his father's home. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-six years and then started out in life on his own account, choosing as his occupation agriculture, which has continued to be his work to the present time. After reaching years of maturity he wedded Miss Minnie Hankamemer, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Hankamemer, of Sandusky, their marriage being celebrated on the 21st of July, 1864. The birth of Mrs. Haas, however, occurred in Germany, whence she came to America with her father in 1861, the family home being established near Monroeville. The mother, who was born in 1810, died in 1857, prior to the emigration of the family to the new world. Her father was born in 1809 and died in Huron county in 1894, when he had reached the extreme old age of eighty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Hankamemer had a family of seven children, Mrs. Haas being the third in order of birth. The other are: William, who departed this life in 1872; Jane, who died in 1889; Christ, who passed away in 1885; Carl, who lives at Plymouth, Ohio; Kathryn, who died in 1861; and Herman, who makes his home in California.

It was about two years after his marriage that George Haas purchased a farm of one hundred and ten acres in Sherman township and to its further development, improvement and cultivation he has since bent his energies. A democrat in politics, he has taken an active part in public affairs and for three terms served as township trustee and he has likewise served as school director. He is a member of the Lutheran church at Columbus Pike and has served on its official board. Unto him and his wife have been born seven children, three sons and four daughters, namely: George C., who wedded Miss Kathryn Scheid and makes his home in Sherman township, his family numbering three children, Mildred, Esther and Walter; Elizabeth, the wife of Lewis Leiber, of Lyme township, by whom she has three children, Olive, Ione and Harold; Emma, still under the parental roof; William, who is a teacher in the Central high school at Toledo, Ohio; Lewis J., of this review; Minnie, the widow of Ernest L. Beckstein, who departed this life December 2, 1908, her family numbering a son and daughter, Clarence and Gladys; and Amelia, who is still with her parents.

Lewis J. Haas was reared to the duties of the home farm, assisting his father in its operation during the spring and summer seasons, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the district school at Weavers Corner. He remained under the parental roof until February, 1905, when he purchased of his father his farm, consisting of sixty-eight acres, lying in Sherman township. He has made improvements on this place and now has a good house and substantial barn and outbuildings. He gives his time to general farming and in his efforts is meeting with success.

Mr. Haas was married on the 8th of February, 1905, to Miss Louisa Beckstein, a daughter of Ernest Beckstein, of Lyme township, a sketch of whom appears in this work. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Haas has been blessed with an interesting little daughter, Freda.

Mr. Haas supports the men and measures of the democratic party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church, in the work of which he takes an active part. For seven years he was a teacher in the Sunday school, while for three years he has been Sunday school superintendent. He works earnestly and persistently in carrying on his business affairs and if the present is any criterion, the future undoubtedly holds for him still greater successes.

PETER ROTH.

Germany has sent to the United States many enterprising and progressive men who, by their industry and perseverance, have acquired a substantial measure of success. Among this number was Peter Roth, now deceased. He was born November 12, 1835, in Hamburg, Germany, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Roth. His early youth was spent in the fatherland, where he acquired his education in the common schools of that country. Rumors soon reached him concerning the business advantages offered by the new world, and thinking to find better opportunities for advancement here than in his native land, at the age of seventeen he bade adieu to home and friends, and, alone, sailed for the United States. He did not linger on the eastern coast but came direct to Ohio, locating at Sandusky where he was engaged as a farm hand by the month until he was twenty-eight years of age. He was not afraid of work and during the intervening years he labored earnestly and diligently, so that eventually, through well directed efforts and careful saving of his earnings, he had accumulated a sum of money sufficient to justify him in establishing for himself a home. Consequently, on the 27th of November, 1861, he was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Schoen, a daughter of Paul and Barbara Schoen who, in 1851, came from Germany to the United States, locating in Sherman township, Huron county, Ohio, where the father was engaged in farming.

After their marriage Peter Roth and his wife took up their abode upon a farm in Sherman township which Mr. Roth had previously purchased. There he engaged in agricultural pursuits for thirteen years, during which period he met with most gratifying success in his undertaking. Subsequently he removed to Weavers Corners, Sherman township, and became identified with mercantile interests, his connection therewith continuing for twenty-nine years. He was progressive and up-to-date in his business methods, possessed keen discrimination, was actuated by the laudable desire, to succeed and the fairness and integrity of his business policy won for him a large and distinctly representative patronage which continuously expanded as he became better known throughout the community. In 1902 he retired from the active duties of business life and, selling his mercantile interests, he purchased a farm in Townsend township, to which he removed with his family and upon which he resided until his death.

As the years went by the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roth was blessed with thirteen children, namely: Henry; Peter; Mary, the wife of Paul Puffing, of Bel-

levue; George; Joseph; Charles; Anna, who married Peter Weidenger; Anna and John, both deceased; John; Jacob; Elizabeth; and Josephine. Mr. Roth held membership in the Catholic church, to which his family also belong. In politics he was democratic, supporting that party at the polls and doing all in his power to extend its influence throughout the community. He was not, however, an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention entirely to his business affairs. He had been singularly successful in both his agricultural and mercantile interests, and not once did he ever have occasion to regret his determination to seek his fortune in this new world where, although competition is strong, advancement is rapid and individual effort is unhampered by caste or class. His personal characteristics were such that, during his long residence in Huron county, he gained an extensive circle of friends who held him in high esteem and regard. He passed to his final rest April 16, 1903. His wife and family still reside upon the home farm and are prominent and highly respected throughout the community.

CHARLES F. BROWN.

Charles F. Brown, the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Peru township, was born in that township on the 1st of January, 1867, his parents being Jacob and Mary (Adleman) Brown. The paternal grandparents, Jacob and Mary Brown, both natives of Germany, were among the earliest settlers of Peru township, this county, and here spent the remainder of their lives. At the time of their arrival this part of the state was practically covered with timber but they resolutely faced the hardships and privations of pioneer existence, built a little log cabin and cleared a tract of land for farming purposes. They were people of the highest respectability and their labors constituted an important element in the work of early development and upbuilding. Jacob Brown, the father of Charles F. Brown, spent his entire life in Peru township, where his birth occurred in the year 1837. He was an agriculturist by occupation and in 1871 purchased the farm on which our subject now resides from James Easton. He built a commodious residence, also barns and outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock and in fact equipped the place with all the accessories of a model farm. Subsequently he bought a tract of ninety-eight acres adjoining, on which his widow now resides, giving his time and energies to its cultivation and improvement until called to his final rest in 1904. He was widely recognized as a most successful farmer and public-spirited citizen, and for a number of years did effective service for the cause of education as a member of the school board. A Catholic in religious faith, he was a prominent member of that church and his upright and honorable life won him the respect and esteem of all with whom business or social relations brought him in contact. His widow, likewise a native of Peru township, still survives at the age of sixty-four years. They reared a family of nine children, as follows: Charles F., of this review; Alfred; Eva, who is the wife of John Grisner and resides at Norwalk, Ohio; Ida, also a resident of Norwalk,

who is the wife of Peter McEnroe; Arthur, Otto and Theodore, all of whom live with their mother and operate the old homestead farm; Eleanor, the wife of Peter Lynch, of Norwalk, Ohio; and Laura, who makes her home at Milan, Ohio, and is the wife of William Heddle.

In his youthful days Charles F. Brown attended the district and Catholic schools of Peru township, thus equipping himself by good mental training for the practical and responsible duties of life. Since putting aside his text-books he has been engaged in the work of general farming and in this line of activity has won a goodly measure of success as the result of his untiring labor and capable management. His property comprises one hundred and fifty acres of rich and productive land, and on the place are found many substantial improvements that indicate the progress that has been made in agricultural lines.

On the 14th of February, 1900, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Anna Heddle, a daughter of Adam and Anna (Harn) Heddle, of Huron county. Like his father, Mr. Brown is a valued and consistent member of the Catholic church. Having always made his home in Peru township, he is widely and favorably known throughout the community and well deserves mention in this volume as a worthy representative of a family that has been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of this county from pioneer times down to the present.

CALVIN CARL HEYMAN.

Calvin Carl Heyman, a farmer of Lyme township, Huron county, and the owner of ninety-five acres of land on which he lives with his sister, who is part owner of the estate, was born on this farm, July 4, 1886. He is the son of William F. and Verena (Ballmer) Heyman, both of whom were of European birth. The father was born in Germany, February 18, 1839, but was only nine years old when he came to this country with his parents. The family settled in Lyme township in 1848, at a time when primitive conditions still prevailed. Their first habitation was a log cabin and it remained their home during the life of the older people. William F. Heyman, on attaining his manhood, bought land extensively and became possessed of three farms in this county, aggregating about three hundred and sixty-five acres. He was a prominent member of the Reformed church, having been at one time one of its elders, and having given, with his brother, the most of the money which made possible the erection of its edifice in 1863. In 1863 he married Miss Verena Ballmer, who was born in Switzerland, May 7, 1844, but came to this country with her parents when very young. She died January 10, 1901, her husband surviving her something over four years, his death having occurred April 3, 1905, on the home farm. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Heyman, all of whom are living, namely: Samuel; Julius; Oliver; Charlotte; Verena, who married William Longshied, of Lyme township; Walter; Arnold; William F., Jr.; Roscoe; Arthur; Paul; and Calvin Carl.

Calvin Carl Heyman has passed all the years of his life in this county. From the district school he received all that it could give in the way of formal preparation



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM F. HEYMAN

for life. He early turned his attention to farming, in fact, he has known almost no other life, for as soon as he was able he was assigned his regular tasks in the economy of the home, which gradually increased in importance and responsibility until he was fully competent, when he reached man's estate to assume the management of his own farm. When he felt that the time had come for him to enter the battle of life for himself, his sister Charlotte united her money with his and the two bought the farm upon which they both live from their parents. Together they have shared the responsibility and the labor, though of course the heavier burden has fallen upon the man. During the period of their possession, however, the farm has been greatly improved and the soil coaxed to its greatest productiveness.

Mr. Heyman is a member of the Reformed church, in which all the rest of the Heyman family have also been confirmed, and he upholds the traditions established in it by his father. He is a hard-working young man and a good manager, so that it is not surprising that he should be reckoned as one of the prosperous farmers among the younger generation in his locality. His life has meant a great deal of persistent labor, but even now he is beginning to see the generous returns this will bring him as the years pass on.

MRS. SUSANNA STIMSON.

Mrs. Susanna Stimson, of Ridgefield township, is the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of one hundred and one acres. It was in Ridgefield township that her birth occurred, her parents being Ziba and Asenath (Jefferson) Surles, who were natives of Pennsylvania and New York respectively. She traces her ancestry back to Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Surles were early settlers of Monroeville, Huron county, Ohio, the father becoming a pioneer blacksmith of this community. They were married at Monroeville and continued worthy and respected residents here until called to their final rest, the father passing away in 1890, at the age of eighty-eight years, while the mother died in 1898, when eighty-two years of age. Unto this worthy couple were born ten children, namely: Cithera; Willard J.; Susanna, of this review; Sarah and Stella, who are deceased; James H.; one who died in infancy; and Lillie, Flora A., and Jessie, all of whom have passed away.

On the 4th of April, 1866, Miss Susanna Surles gave her hand in marriage to Garner Stimson, who was born in Cambridgeshire, England, January 2, 1836, his parents being Joseph and Mary Ann Stimson. He was about fifteen years of age when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world, the family home being established near Monroeville, Ohio. His mother died about six weeks after her arrival in this county. Garner Stimson was the second in order of birth in a family of nine children, his brothers and sisters being as follows: Jane, Elizabeth, Joseph B. and Charles, all of whom are now deceased; Frank; John; Ruth; and Arthur.

In the fall of 1866 Garner Stimson purchased the farm on which his widow now resides and as the years went by made many substantial improvements on the property, winning a gratifying and well deserved measure of success in his agricultural interests. On the 4th of September, 1861, he enlisted for three years' service in the Union army as a member of Company B, Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and re-enlisted February 10, 1864, while on the 2d of August, 1865, he was honorably discharged at Nashville, Tennessee. He was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant of Company I, December 2, 1864, and on the 2d of August, 1865, the day on which he was mustered out, received a commission as captain. That his military service was of a most arduous and hazardous character is indicated by the following list of battles in which he participated: Corinth, Mississippi; Gunther's Landing, Lexington, Kentucky; Hartsville and Gallatin, Tennessee; Stone River; Bradyville, Liberty, Snow Hill and Franklin, Tennessee; Elk River; Pulaski; Alpine, La Fayette and Chickamauga, Georgia; McMinnville, Farmington, Charleston, Cleveland and Loudon, Tennessee; Murphy, North Carolina; Moulton, Alabama; Big Shanty; McAfee's Crossroads; Tennessee Creek; Kenesaw Mountain; Atlanta and Lovejoys Station, Georgia; Good Hope Church; Gadsdin, Georgia; and Blue Mountain.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stimson were born seven children: Jessie L., is the wife of Fred P. Rosecrans, who was formerly a school teacher and is now the manager of a store on the Hawaiian Islands. They have two children, Garneffie and Rita O. Effie C., the wife of James R. McDonald, resides at Boulder, Colorado and has two children, Ronald J. and Thera G. William S. and Elver reside on the home farm with her mother. Susanna S. has passed away. Susie A. gave her hand in marriage to Allen C. Setchell and makes her home in Huron county. Ambrose H. wedded Miss May Bailey, of Norwalk, and lives on the old homestead farm. They have one child, Erma May.

Mr. Stimson was a consistent and valued member of the Baptist church, in which he served as a deacon and in the faith of which he passed away on the 2d of June, 1904. His demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of friends during the fifty-three years of his residence in this county, his life being characterized at all times by high and honorable principles and worthy motives. For many years he maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army post. Mrs. Stimson, who still survives her husband, has an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which her entire life has been spent, her many good traits of heart and mind having endeared her to all with whom she has come in contact.

HON. H. N. DONALDSON, D. D. S.

Hon. H. N. Donaldson, who is now acting as chief executive of Bellevue, where he is also conducting a dental office, his professional ability gaining him rank as a representative of the dental fraternity in this county, was born on a farm in Washington county, Pennsylvania, on the 1st of June, 1869. He comes

of Scotch-Irish ancestry, the family having been founded in America by his great-grandfather, Jacob Donaldson, who on crossing the Atlantic settled on a farm in Mount Pleasant township, Washington county, Pennsylvania. His son, Isaac Donaldson, was there born and the same neighborhood was the birthplace of Dr. Donaldson and his father. The latter was Robert Donaldson, whose natal day was June 5, 1831. He is still living in the county of his nativity and is one of the worthy and respected citizens of the community. In early manhood he married Rachel Walker, who was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1832 and died in 1871. They were the parents of six children: Frank, who died in 1900 at the age of forty-two years; Flora, the wife of J. M. Dinsmore, living in Washington county, Pennsylvania; Anna, who became the wife of Dr. Hugh Hanna, of Philadelphia, and died in 1903; Sarah, the wife of J. M. Thompson, a resident of Washington county, Pennsylvania; Charles, who is living on the old homestead in Washington county; and H. N.

Dr. Donaldson spent the period of his minority in his native county and attended the district schools there, after which he continued his education in an academy at Buffalo, Pennsylvania. He prepared for a professional career by a course of study in the Pennsylvania Dental College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1891. In that year he came to Bellevue, Ohio, and succeeded to the practice and patronage of Dr. Kirk. He has since followed his profession here and is a capable dentist whose broad understanding of the scientific principles that underlie his work, together with his mechanical skill and ingenuity, make him one of the foremost practitioners among the representatives of the dental fraternity in Bellevue. He is very careful in all his work and his patience and courtesy as well as his professional skill have made him a popular dentist of Bellevue.

Dr. Donaldson has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Minnie Wade, a daughter of Lewis and Mary Wade, of Urbana, Ohio. The wedding was celebrated June 22, 1892, and they were separated by the death of the wife on the 4th of November, 1905, Mrs. Donaldson being then about thirty-five years of age, her birth having occurred April 9, 1870. They were the parents of two children, Robert and Mildred. Dr. Donaldson was again married at Bellevue in 1907, his second union being with Miss Emma May Barb, a daughter of James C. and Hannah A. (McDonald) Barb. Her father was born in 1834, and died in 1901 while the mother, who was born in 1835, passed away in 1891. Mr. Barb was a Lutheran minister, devoting his entire life to the work of the church. In his family were six children: J. Ernest, who is now a minister; John M.; Elsie L.; Ida; Bertha, deceased; and Mrs. Donaldson, the latter a native of Tennessee.

Dr. Donaldson has been prominent and influential in community affairs and his fellow citizens, recognizing his public spirit, his business ability and his devotion to the general good, have called him to public office. He was a member of the school board for about thirteen years when he resigned and was elected mayor of Bellevue on the democratic ticket in November, 1905. So acceptably did he serve during the first term that he was reelected in 1907 and has now entered upon the fourth year of his service as chief executive of the city, in which connection he is giving a business-like and progressive administration charac-

terized by retrenchment of all useless expenditure but by wise investment in lines of municipal progress, reform and improvement. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the lodge and chapter at Bellevue and also to the Elks lodge of this city. He is likewise a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Congregational church and his life is actuated by high and honorable principles, to which he is loyal in every relation of life. He sustains a high reputation as a capable representative of his profession, as the city's chief executive and as well in all those relations of life where warm friendships and strong personal attachments are formed.

MRS. JOSEPH SWEET.

Mrs. Joseph Sweet, the owner of eighty-four acres of land in Lyme township, Huron county, is the daughter of Samuel E. Nims and comes of a family that has been intimately connected with the history of this country from the time the thirteen colonies battled for their independence from the mother country. Asa Nims, Mrs. Sweet's great-grandfather, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and when his son Samuel came to Ohio, he accompanied him and participated in the struggles of the few pioneers here. This Samuel Nims was born in Franklin, Massachusetts, in 1790, and with his wife Mahala, came to Huron county, Ohio, in 1826, but she did not long survive the hard life and its struggles, dying in her thirty-sixth year. She left two children to mourn her loss. The older, Betsy, married Rufus Russell, and with her husband has passed beyond earth's worries. The second child was Samuel E. Nims, the father of Mrs. Sweet, who is still living, though at a very advanced age. For his second wife, the grandfather, Samuel Nims, married Miss Fannie Peck, who was born in 1800, and came from Shelborn, Massachusetts, as did his first wife. She became the mother of two daughters, Augusta and Ardelia. The former was born in 1837, and in the course of time married Samuel Bemiss. She died October 22, 1907. Ardelia was born two years after her sister and married Edward A. Barton. She has since passed away, but her husband is living in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Samuel E. Nims, the father of our subject, has always lived in this part of the state. He received his early education in the district schools here and later attended the high school at Bellevue. In after years he demonstrated that he was a man of many capabilities, who took an active and practical interest in public affairs and he was elected a member of the school board and was also made township assessor. In both capacities he acquitted himself with distinction, leaving a fine record behind him. On the 5th of October, 1859, he married Miss Julia Stebbins, a daughter of Alfred Stebbins, and through her was blessed with two daughters: Mattie E., who is the subject of this sketch; and Nettie C. The latter married E. W. Avery and now lives in Erie county. They have three children: Helen, Leland Ford, and Myron M.

Mattie E. Nims was born in this county, October 7, 1862. She received the best education the schools of this locality afforded and also attended Lake Erie

College at Paynesville, Ohio, and spent two years at Oberlin Conservatory. She passed her days on the farm, fulfilling the duties around the house that fell to her share, but otherwise living in comparative quiet. On the 16th of February, 1888, she married Joseph Sweet, of Shelborn, Massachusetts, who was born September 27, 1858, and during the forty odd years of his life pursued the vocation of a farmer, becoming a most successful man. He was a staunch member of the Congregational church and a thorough Christian in his manner of life, and when he died, December 28, 1903, he left a large number of friends to mourn his loss. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sweet were born two children: Gretchen M., who was born January 19, 1890; and John M., born December 10, 1891.

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Sweet has carried on the work and business of the farm and has not found the task beyond her powers. In fact she has grown up to her responsibilities and has demonstrated how a capable woman can conduct a man's work. Some of the courage of her soldier great-grandfather and grandfather, the latter having fought in the war of 1812, would seem to flow in her veins, for she never falters before a difficulty and valiantly comes out ahead in all her struggles.

IRA L. WYANT, M. D.

Dr. Ira L. Wyant is an example of the self-made man, who has never sought success by devious methods but in a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit, has made continuous progress, proving his ability to cope with the intricate problems that continually confront the physician. One of Ohio's native sons, he was born in Sandusky county, on the 10th of March, 1870, a son of Reuben K. and Sarah (Overmeyer) Wyant. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and in his boyhood days accompanied his parents to Sandusky county, Ohio. Both he and his wife died, however, during the early childhood of their son, Ira, and that he has attained to his present enviable position as one of the leading physicians of the county is an evidence of his industry, perseverance, determination and mental capacity. His early education was of a spasmodic character, being interrupted time and again by the necessity for him to provide for his own support. He spent two years as a pupil in the district schools, two years in Huron high school, and one year at the Ohio Normal at Ada. Becoming imbued with a desire to enter the medical profession, he eagerly availed himself of every opportunity that advanced him in that direction. During the summer months he sailed on the lakes in various capacities and during the winter seasons studied at the Homeopathic Medical College at Cleveland, thus continuing his course until he was graduated with the class of 1894. He then located for practice in Chesterland, Ohio, where he remained for twelve years, when, seeking a broader field of labor he came in 1906 to Norwalk, where he has since remained and in the intervening years has built up a good practice. By reading and research he keeps in touch with the most progressive ideas and methods of the profession and his close conformity to a high standard

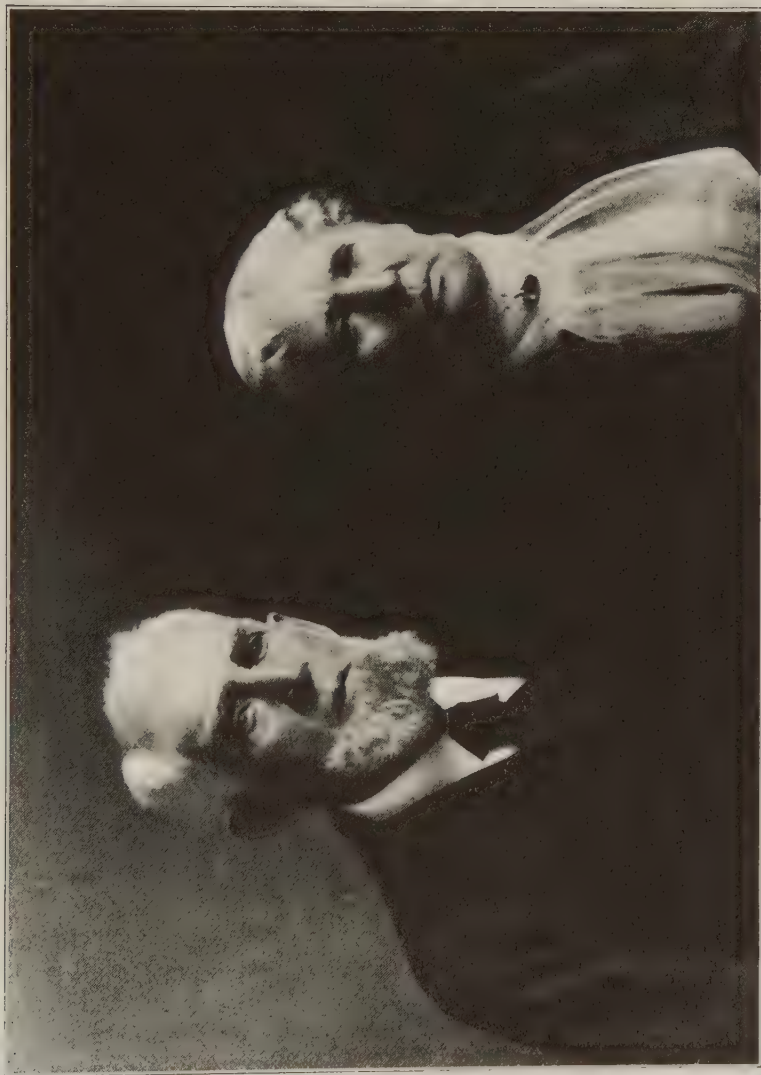
of professional ethics has won him the unqualified regard of his fellow members of the medical fraternity.

Dr. Wyant was married in 1895 to Miss Mary Doane, a daughter of Silas and Eudolpha (DeWitt) Doane, who were old and respected Huron county citizens. The father came to this county when young, settling at Hartland. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Wyant has been born a daughter, Hilda, whose birth occurred January 20, 1898. The Doctor's interests center in his home and yet he is not unmindful of the social amenities of life, finding pleasant relations in fraternal organizations, being a Knight Templar Mason, a Knight of Pythias and a Forester. His fellow townsmen recognize him as a citizen, dependable under all conditions, while his patrons manifest well merited faith in his professional skill and ability.

CHRISTOPHER G. GALLEY.

Christopher G. Galley, a substantial and representative agriculturist of Huron county, has resided on his present farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres in Greenfield and Peru townships for more than a half century. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Peru township on the 6th of August, 1829. His parents were George B. and Lydia (Wilson) Galley, the former being a native of New York, while the latter was born in Peru township, this county. The mother passed away when her son, Christopher G., was about seven years of age and since then the latter has never seen his father, who went to South Carolina about that time. Mr. Galley of this review was reared by his maternal grandfather, Asa Wilson, who was one of the first settlers of Peru township, coming here with Henry Coy. He lived in a log house and had about six hundred acres of land, which he cleared with the assistance of his son and grandson, Christopher G. Galley. Both Mr. Wilson and Mr. Coy took a prominent and helpful part in the work of early development and upbuilding and when the former passed away in 1855, at the venerable age of ninety-two years, the county mourned the loss of one of its most respected and worthy pioneer settlers. Asa Wilson was a soldier in the war of 1812 and participated in the battle of Plattsburg.

Christopher G. Galley obtained his education in the district schools, and has devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career. With the exception of a period of two years spent at farm work in Seneca county, this state, he has always made his home in Huron county. The farm on which he now lives has been his place of residence since 1857, and is a valuable and productive tract of land comprising one hundred and twenty-five acres, lying partly in Greenfield township and partly in Peru township. He purchased the property from Asa Hanes and for the first seven years, lived in a log house, but in 1864 erected the commodious and substantial brick dwelling, which is yet seen on the place. The many other improvements with which the farm is equipped all stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise and everything about the place indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive



MR. AND MRS. C. G. GALLEY

owner. At the present time, however, he has largely put aside the active work of the fields and spends the greater part of his time in the care of his bees, having a number of hives. He has met with a gratifying and well merited degree of prosperity in his undertakings and has long been numbered among the most successful and enterprising citizens of the community.

Mr. Galley has been married twice. In 1854, he wedded Miss Kathryn E. Griswold, a daughter of George W. and Rose Griswold, of Norwich township. She met with a sudden and tragic end, being killed in 1881 at Havana, Ohio, by a Baltimore & Ohio Railroad train. On the 20th of February, 1883, Mr. Galley was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth R. Ryerson, a native of Vernon, New Jersey, and a daughter of Nicholas and Serepta (Simonson) Ryerson, who were likewise born in Vernon, New Jersey. The father, whose birth occurred in 1813, was called to his final rest in 1861, while the mother was born in 1817 and passed away in 1897. In the year 1841, when their daughter, Mrs. Galley was a little maiden of six years, they took up their abode in Peru township, this county. Nicholas Ryerson acted as superintendent of the Baptist Sunday school for more than twenty-five years. Unto him and his wife were born eleven children, namely: Elizabeth R.; Christopher S., a resident of Portland, Michigan; Mary, the deceased wife of John Lattimore, of Norwalk, Ohio; John R., living in Norwalk, Ohio; Hannah, the deceased wife of John Hollaway; Emeline, who is the wife of Frank Brown, of Huron county; Nicholas, of Peru township; Walter and William, both of whom reside in Norwalk, Ohio; Serepta, who has passed away; and Margaret, who is the wife of F. E. Hickson and makes her home near Toledo, Ohio.

Of late years Mr. Galley has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and has served in the position of school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. He has now passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey and, having spent practically the entire time in Huron county, no man is more familiar with its history or with events which have left their impress upon its annals and no man of this section of the state is held in more uniform respect and regard than is he of whom we write.

ADELBERT S. VAIL.

Adelbert S. Vail, who is serving as assistant in the auditor's office at Norwalk, was born on the 24th of April, 1889. His father, David Vail, whose birth occurred in Newfield, Tompkins county, New York, on the 1st of October, 1811, was long numbered among the most honored and respected citizens of Huron county, with the upbuilding and development of which he was identified from early pioneer times. In 1833, when a young man of twenty-two years, he emigrated to Ohio, driving and walking all the way through almost a continuous wilderness. He located first at Elyria, which was a little settlement consisting of a meeting house and two or three small buildings. A few years prior to his death, in response to a letter received from the editor of a local paper requesting information regarding his pioneer experiences, Mr. Vail wrote, in part, as follows:

"I passed through Elyria the last of November of 1833 with my uncle, Joseph Linderman, on my way from the state of New York to Carlisle, Lorain county, about six miles south of Elyria, where his brother-in-law had lived for some time. That winter I went to work at Elyria, cutting cordwood for a cast-iron furnace, which was situated at or near the junction of the east and west branches of Black river. The iron company kept a store and paid the hands in what was called 'iron money,' a bill which was redeemable in goods from the store. * * * I do not know what the population of Elyria was at that time, but there was besides the iron works, three or four stores, a boarding house and a church, the bell of which rang at the time it rained stars. That winter I went to Oberlin (then called the Presbyterian Colony) to school, about two months, until the teacher became sick and the school closed. I went back to Elyria to work, staying until July, when I came to Huron county." While living at Elyria he helped to build the first road along the Black river into the village of Lorain. On coming to this county he settled at Olena and turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, with which he was successfully identified throughout his active life. He likewise conducted a general mercantile store in Olean for several years and in all of his undertakings met with a commendable and well deserved measure of prosperity, being a man of excellent business ability and keen discrimination.

On the 7th of December, 1845, David Vail was married at Fairfield, Huron county, to Almira Adams, of Symphronius, Cayuga county, New York. She passed away on the 5th of January, 1887, leaving five children: David W., Leonard A., John J., Alice and Charles W. On the 10th of April, 1888, Mr. Vail was again married, his second union being with Miss Ellen Jeanette Sweet, who was born on the 29th of June, 1846, her parents being Charles R. and Elizabeth (Hodges) Sweet. Her father, whose birth occurred in Onondaga county, New York, August 18, 1814, came to Huron county in 1844 and, purchasing a farm, was actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. He was called to his final rest on the 17th of September, 1870. On the 25th of January, 1842, he had wedded Miss Elizabeth Hodges, who was born June 24, 1823, and whose demise occurred on the 4th of September, 1866. Unto Mr. Vail and his second wife was born a son, Adelbert S., of this review.

When twenty-one years of age David Vail cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson, who had again been nominated as the presidential candidate of the democracy. In 1884, during President Cleveland's first administration, he was appointed postmaster of Olena, but when Benjamin Harrison was elected chief executive he gave up the office and served as a notary public for many years. When Cleveland was reelected president the postmastership was again tendered Mr. Vail, but he declined, preferring to live a retired life, free from business and official cares. At the time of his death he was one of the oldest residents in the county, and also one of the oldest members of the Baptist church, which he joined in early life. He passed away at his home in Olena on the 28th of January, 1907, at the venerable age of ninety-five years, three months and twenty-eight days, and thus the county was called upon to mourn the loss of one of its most honored, esteemed and influential pioneer residents. In a review of his life,

written by one of the local papers at the time of his demise, we find the following statement: "Mr. Vail was a good type of the old-fashioned York state stock, an honorable and sincere man who won respect by faithfulness, integrity and genial personal qualities and he doubtless never knew how considerable an impression his fine character made on his many friends and acquaintances." His aid and influence could always be counted upon to further any movement or measure instituted to promote the general welfare, for he was a most public-spirited, loyal and progressive citizen.

Adelbert S. Vail, whose name initiates this review, is a graduate of the Olena schools and also completed a course in the business college at Norwalk, in 1905. He is now capably discharging the duties devolving upon him as deputy in the office of the auditor at Norwalk and, although but twenty years of age, has already gained favorable recognition as a young man of much promise and ability.

GEORGE H. MAINS.

George H. Mains brought forth the first edition of the Wakeman Independent Press on the 10th of September, 1875, and since that date has not missed a weekly publication of the paper. He is well known as a representative of journalistic interests in this part of the state and through the columns of the Press has done much to further the welfare and promote the progress of the town in which he resides. He was born November 23, 1833, in Athens, Somerset county, Maine, his parents being John and Lura Ann (Boston) Mains, who emigrated to Ohio in 1836 and settled in Russia township, Lorain county. In the family were twelve children, of whom the two eldest died in infancy, George H. being the eldest of those who reached years of maturity. The others were: Elvira; John; Emeline; Aquilla and Priscilla, twins; Lura Ann, who became a noted evangelist of the Free Will Baptist church; Lorenzo; Sumner B.; and Mary. The last named is the wife of Gilbert Treadwell, a blacksmith of Union City, Michigan, while Emeline was the wife of Darwin Peckham of Lincoln, Nebraska, who went to that city when it was first laid out and became a prominent contractor and builder there, erecting many of the public buildings. He died there several years ago. John Mains, the father of this family, was a blacksmith and worked at his trade throughout his active life, following that pursuit in Lorain and Erie counties, Ohio, and afterward in Calhoun county, Michigan, to which place he removed in 1852, there spending his remaining days. His death occurred in Coldwater, Michigan, about twenty years ago.

George H. Mains was educated in the common schools of Erie county and as a young man learned the cabinetmaker's trade at Birmingham, Ohio. He accompanied the family on their removal to Michigan in 1852, but only remained in that state for three years, after which he returned to Erie county, Ohio, in 1856. There he continued to work at the cabinetmaker's trade and became well known in the community not only by reason of his business affairs but also owing to the fact that he took quite an active part in the campaign for Fremont and Dayton. He became one of the early advocates of the republican

party and voted twice for Lincoln and once for Grant but in 1872 he supported Horace Greely and since that time has been voting the prohibition ticket, taking an active interest in promoting the cause of temperance along political lines and in private life as well.

In 1863 Mr. Mains gave up his trade as a cabinetmaker and turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, with which he was connected for a number of years. He was also a traveling salesman for a Cleveland house for three years and later he became a stencil cutter, being thus engaged for several years in Ohio and Michigan. In 1870 he began the publication of the *Literary Pearl*, a monthly paper in which were produced the writings of his two sisters, Elvira, who was a teacher, and Lura Ann, a missionary worker. This was continued until 1875 when he was induced by the merchants of Wakeman to remove to this town and establish a paper as the town was then without one and the merchants wished an advertising medium. Accordingly in August, 1875, he came to Wakeman and established the office and on the 10th of September, 1875, brought forth the first issue of the *Wakeman Independent Press*, which has since been produced weekly to the present time. The paper has wielded a wide influence for great good in the community, being the champion of every measure calculated to promote public progress, reform and improvement. It has always been utilized for the dissemination of general and local news and now has both a good circulation and advertising patronage.

Mr. Mains has been married twice. In 1858 he wedded Miss Jane B. Harrison, a daughter of Thomas Harrison, a farmer of Erie county. She lived for only two years after her marriage, her death occurring in 1860. In 1862 Mr. Mains wedded Miss Ann E. Cross, a daughter of Bartlett Cross. They had three children: Elmer E. and George B., both now deceased; and Anson Perry, who is associated with his father in the publication of the *Press*. Mr. Mains has a nice home and a fine little truck farm in addition to his newspaper. He is a man, active in local affairs and was the first one to carry the daily mail from Birmingham to Wakeman, making the round trip, a distance of sixteen miles, for sixty-two and a half cents. This was in 1858. While he has always been interested in public measures he has never been a candidate for office. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and has been interested and active in this work for a half century, serving almost constantly throughout this period as one of the church officials and as a Sunday-school worker, frequently acting as superintendent of the Sunday school. He stands for all that is progressive and beneficial in the community and his labors have been of far-reaching influence in promoting Wakeman's welfare.

GEORGE AVERY.

George Avery, a farmer of Lyme township, Huron county, is the owner of seventy-six acres of land, upon which he has made his home for more than a quarter of a century. He was born in this township, April 19, 1851, the son of Luther and Susanna (Ford) Avery. The father was born in New London

county, Connecticut, but came as a young boy with his father, Dudley Avery, to Ohio and settled in Lyme township, near Hunte's Corners. Here he pursued farming all his life, and the task and labor of cultivating the soil in a comparatively early part of the history of the county was a much more difficult thing than it is today, and required the greater part of his time. He died February 22, 1895. A family of six children, however, soon grew up and were able to afford him considerable assistance. They were Henry A.; Mary, deceased; George; James O.; Edmond W.; and Addie R.

George Avery has spent all of his life in this township. He received his early training under the guidance of his parents at home and in the district schools, where he learned all that these institutions could impart to him. Farming has been his occupation throughout life, for as a boy he did his full share about the home from the time that he was old enough to be intrusted with the responsibilities of the household chores and was able to carry water to those working in the fields, until he too was able to do a man's work ploughing or making hay. By the time, therefore, that he had compassed the period of youth he was fully competent to assume the full management of a farm of his own and was skilled in the best methods of winning from the land its most bounteous returns.

On the 29th of October, 1878, Mr. Avery was united in marriage to Miss Nellie C. Eaton, a daughter of Delos and Calista (Stebbins) Eaton. This family, like the Averys, were among the early settlers of this part of the county, where they have spent the greater part of their long and useful lives. There have been two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Avery: Ethel L. and Ralph.

During the thirty years that he has lived upon his present farm, Mr. Avery has considerably improved it and the quality of the produce he wins from it, for he is a man who is ever on the alert to grasp such means as will contribute to his own convenience and increase the efficiency of his working power. He professes the creed of the Congregational church, and his daily life bears evidence that his profession is not merely a form. He is highly thought of among those who have had relations with him, for he is a man whose quiet life, filled with hard work, contributes its share to the good citizenship of the county.

REV. JOHN A. SCHAFFELD.

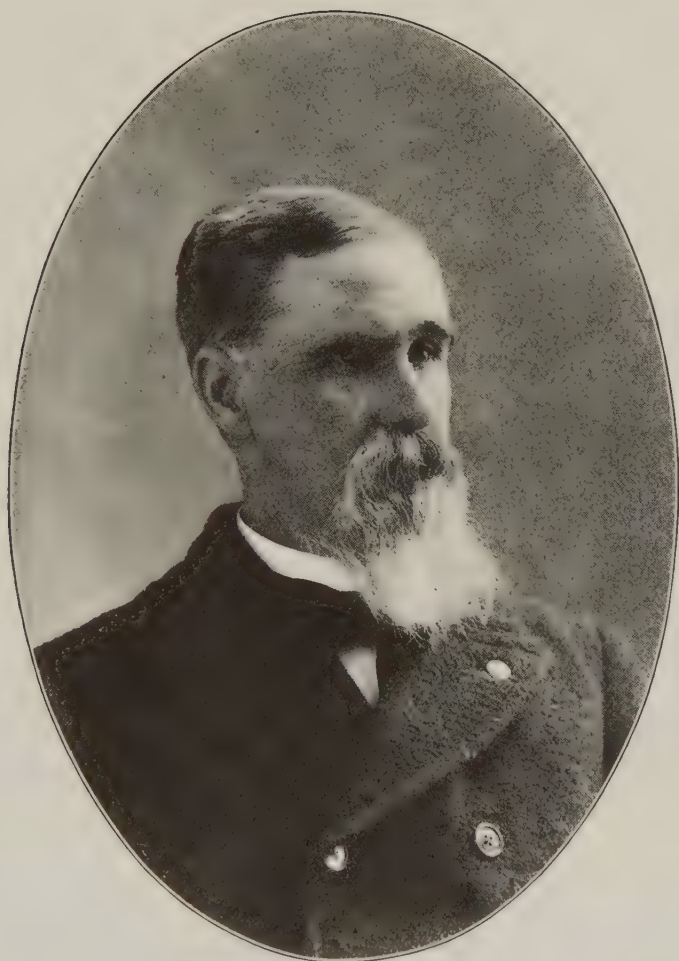
Rev. John A. Schaffeld, pastor of St. Paul's church in Norwalk, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, a son of John Bernard Schaffeld, who was a native of Germany. In his boyhood days the father came with his parents to the new world, the family home being established in Baltimore. In 1867 a removal was made to Cleveland, where for twenty years Mr. Schaffeld made his home, passing away in 1886 at the age of forty-six years. In early manhood he had married Christina Teresa Koenig, a native of Rhenish Prussia, whose father was an officer in the French army. She is still living and is a well preserved woman for her years.

Rev. John A. Schaffeld was reared in Cleveland, pursuing his early education in St. Peter's parochial school. His classical course was obtained at Canisius College in Buffalo, while his preparation for the priesthood was made in St. Mary's Seminary at Cleveland. Having determined to devote his life to the cause of the church he was ordained to the priesthood on the 17th of December, 1892, and then for eight and a half years was pastor of the church of St. Mary's in Fulton county, Ohio. On the expiration of that period he came to Norwalk, where he has since remained in charge of the parish of St. Paul's church. He is a genial and popular gentleman, high-minded, a liberal man interested in the cause of general education and most active and efficient in the work of the church, doing much for the spread of Catholicism in this locality.

CAPTAIN C. C. COOK.

Captain C. C. Cook, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Bellevue, where he is conducting a fire insurance agency and is also serving as justice of the peace, which position he has capably and acceptably filled for about sixteen years, was born in a little log cabin in this city January 1, 1838, and therefore has been a witness of the growth and development of the city and county for more than three score years and ten. His parents were Nathan S. and Eliza (Dixon) Cook, early residents of this part of the state. The father was born in Seneca county, New York, in 1809 and died in 1850 when returning from California. He was one of the first to go to the Pacific coast on the discovery of gold in that section of the country. He had come to Ohio in pioneer times and was closely, actively and helpfully associated with the work of early development and improvement. His wife, who was born in Meadville, Pennsylvania, in 1816, died in Huron county in 1879, at the age of sixty-three years. They were the parents of six children: C. C.; Robert and Mary C., who are both deceased; James D.; and Charles G. and Ellen, who have passed away.

Captain Cook of this review has always resided at Bellevue, save for the period of his service in the United States army, spending his youthful days in his mother's home—his father having died when the son was but twelve years of age—he pursued his education in the public schools of Bellevue and later in preparation for a professional career entered the Buffalo Medical College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1867. He practiced medicine in Bellevue for one year. In the meantime, however, he had rendered active aid to his country as a soldier of the Civil War. He watched with interest the progress of the events in the south, preceding the outbreak of hostilities, believed that no state had the right to withdraw from the Union and in April, 1861, at the first call for seventy-five thousand men, he enlisted at Bellevue and went to Camp Denison, where he joined the First Zouave Regiment. Becoming a private of Company D, he was soon advanced to the rank of sergeant and participated in a large number of battles and skirmishes, including the engagements at Fayetteville, Virginia, and the Toland and Averill raid to West Virginia. He also went on the Hunter raid to Lynchburg in 1864 and up the Shenandoah valley under Sheridan. He was in-



CAPT. C. C. COOK

jured at Princeton and because of this was detailed for duty as hospital steward of the regiment. He remained at the front until the close of hostilities and was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, in 1865, returning to his home with a most creditable military record. It was subsequent to this time that he studied medicine for a year in Bellevue, but in 1868 he again proffered his military aid to the country and entered the United States Regular Army, joining General Custer at Fort Harker, Kansas. He was in the regular service for about ten years, acted for a time as inspector on General Hancock's staff and visited all the forts from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Yuma and from British Columbia to the gulf. Promotion won him the rank of captain of cavalry and he worthily won his officer's stripes.

On retiring from the army, Captain Cook returned to Bellevue. He was married in 1879 to Miss Emma Murdock, a daughter of Hiram and Carolina Murdock of Orleans county, New York. Mrs. Cook, who was an estimable lady and enjoyed the friendship of many with whom she came in contact, departed this life in 1903.

Captain Cook is well known in Masonic circles, holding membership in the lodge, chapter and council at Bellevue and in the Knight Templar Commandery of Norwalk, Ohio. He also affiliates with the Royal Arcanum and the Knights of the Maccabees and is a past commander of the Grand Army Post of Bellevue. In the work of these organizations, he takes an active interest and finds special delight in the camp fires of his post where are recalled the scenes and incidents of warfare in the south. He went through all the usual experiences of the regular soldier on the frontier of the west and as commanding officer of his company, he enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and respect of those who served under him. Since resuming his residence in Bellevue, he has engaged in the fire insurance business, in which connection he has secured a good clientage. During sixteen years service as justice of the peace, his decisions have ever been strictly fair and impartial and indicate that he is as loyal to the interests of his country in times of peace as when he followed the old flag on the battlefields of the south or protected the nation's standard upon the western plains.

HIRAM R. BOARDMAN.

He whose name initiates this review needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume, for he is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county and is, moreover, well known throughout the community as an aviarist of considerable note, being perhaps the best authority on bee culture in Huron county.

Hiram R. Boardman was born on the 2d of April, 1834, in old Swanzeey, New Hampshire, near the home of Denman Thompson, and is a son of Hiram and Delia (Richardson) Boardman. The family was established in Huron county in June, 1835, the father, prior to that time, having made a trip to the middle west, traveling most of the distance on foot. Attracted by the splendid opportunities offered by this great and growing country, he returned east for his family and brought them by way of the Erie canal to Buffalo and thence to Huron

by lake steamer, while the remainder of the journey was made by wagon. At the time of their arrival in Huron county the state of Ohio was still little more than a wilderness, its lands remaining largely unclaimed and its resources undeveloped. The early settlers had cleared tiny openings in the forest where they had built their log cabins, while the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun. As the years passed, however, Hiram Boardman, Sr., bore his full share in the work of transformation and improvement and became a prominent and influential member of the community. He was a blacksmith by trade and followed that occupation after coming to Huron county. He taught school for three years subsequent to his arrival here and was also identified with the agricultural interests of this county. He became active in public affairs and was called upon to fill almost all of the local offices of the township, including that of township clerk, trustee and justice of the peace, while for many years he was postmaster of Townsend at a time when the mail was carried from Norwalk on horseback. It was while he was acting as trustee that the township house, a very creditable brick building which yet stands, was built. He was deeply interested in and a staunch champion of the cause of education, and every matter or measure which had for its object the substantial growth and upbuilding of the community found in him a ready sympathizer and cooperator. He was well known and prominent among the early settlers of Huron county, and occupied a high place in the esteem and regard of his fellowmen. His death occurred April 15, 1871, while his wife survived until the 18th of June, 1899. They were both buried in the Townsend cemetery. In their family were five children: Hiram R., Horace H., Marcia, Electa and Wyman, all of whom are yet living.

Accompanying his parents to Ohio when but one year of age, Hiram R. Boardman was therefore reared in Huron county and attended the district schools in the acquirement of his early education. He later studied for a time in the special school at Collins, after which he devoted some time to teaching in Wood county. Subsequently withdrawing from that profession, however, he became employed in his father's shingle mill on the home farm and later purchased the mill, which he operated on his own account for several years. Then in 1854, the year following the border troubles, he went to Kansas and took up one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he remained for one year. After his return to Ohio he spent a year in the Pennsylvania oil fields as a tool dresser and then became identified with agricultural interests, exchanging his property in Kansas for a farm in Townsend Center, upon which he has since resided. Here he engages in general farming and devotes the greater portion of his time and attention to his bee interests. Since a young man he has made a careful study of bees and their habits, specializing along improved and modern methods of handling them. He has been a large contributor to the foremost bee journals in the country and is perhaps the best authority and judge of bees in Huron county. He is a taxidermist of considerable ability and has a collection of birds and animals that has few equals among private collections and would make a valuable addition to any museum.

Mr. Boardman was united in marriage in 1873 to Miss Eliza Lord, a daughter of Calif and Susan Lord of Bowling Green, Wood county. No children came

to bless this union but Mr. and Mrs. Boardman adopted into their home a daughter, Ivon May, who is the life and light of the household. Politically Mr. Boardman has voted the democratic ticket since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but he has never desired nor sought public office. Although he has many times been selected by his fellow citizens as a candidate for various offices, he has, nevertheless, declined the nomination. For many years he was a member of the board of education and has been deeply interested in the cause of education, being a stanch champion thereof. Fraternally he is a member of Townsend Lodge, No. 322, F. & A. M., and has been very active in Masonic circles. He holds membership in the Townsend Grange, and is also affiliated with the Patrons of Husbandry, in the affairs of which he has been prominent and active. He is preeminently a public-spirited citizen, prominent and active in public affairs, and is held in the highest respect and esteem by his fellowmen. His various interests have been such as constitute a well-rounded character, appreciative of all that goes to make up life's contacts and relations, while the consensus of public opinion accords him a most enviable position among the honored and valued representatives of Huron county.

BALSOR LEHMAN.

Balsor Lehman owns a neat and well improved farm of one hundred and seventy-four acres, situated in Sherman township, where he is now practically living retired, leaving the more active work of the fields to his son. As the name indicates, Mr. Lehman is of German birth, his natal day being January 6, 1827. His parents, Nicholas and Mary Lehman, emigrated to the United States in the year 1833 and made a location in Stark county, Ohio, where they spent about twelve years. They then sold out in that county and took up their abode in Seneca county, this state, purchasing property near St. Stephens, where they made their home until 1863, when they removed to Sherman township, Huron county, and purchased the farm, which is now owned by our subject.

Balsor Lehman was a little lad of but six years at the time of the emigration of the family to the new world. It was during the twelve years' residence of the family in Stark county that he acquired his education in the district schools. He accompanied his parents on their various removals up to the time of their arrival in Sherman township. He is now the owner of the old homestead property, which has been in possession of the family since 1863, or for a period of forty-six years. Since taking possession Mr. Lehman has made a number of substantial improvements and he now has a nice country residence, good barn and substantial outbuildings to shelter his grain and stock, and everything about the place is kept in a state of good repair, indicating the practical and progressive methods of the owner. He has here one hundred and seventy-four acres of land and for many years was actively engaged in the work of the farm but as he has now passed the seventy-second milestone on the journey of life, he is practically living retired, while his son John manages the place.

It was in Seneca county, this state, that Mr. Lehman chose a companion and helpmate in the person of Miss Elizabeth Bunn, their marriage being celebrated on the 17th of August, 1862. She is a daughter of Martin and Katharine Bunn, and by her marriage has become the mother of ten children. Lea, the eldest, was born in Seneca county. Martin, the next in order of birth, wedded Miss Anna Glassner of Fremont and they have had nine children, as follows: Charles, Amelia, Reuben, John, Romie, Loretta, Harold, Arthur, and one who died in infancy. Mary became the wife of Peter Grulich of Seneca county, Ohio, but is now deceased. She was the mother of five children, John, Clara, Fred, George, and Victor, deceased. Lena, the fourth member of the Lehman family, has departed this life. Victor is the wife of Frank Ruffing and resides at Cadiz, Ohio. They have had eight children but two died in infancy, the others being Alfa, Nora, Bert, Solomon, Harold and Ralph. Anna is the wife of Joe Falter, of Seneca county, their home being in East Norwalk. They have seven children, Frank, Gertrude, Clem, Louisa, Charles, Urbin and Lea. Louisa first wedded John West, of Tiffin, Ohio, and later became the wife of Sam Higgins, their home being in California. Elizabeth is the wife of John Garhardstein, a resident of Seneca county. They have had a family of eight children but two of the number died in infancy, the living members being Robert, Albert, Loretta, Tillie, Gertrude and Oscar. John lives at home and operates the farm. Rose is the wife of Leo Leable, of Tiffin, by whom she has five children, Zenobia, Justice, Harold, Leo and Rush.

Mr. Lehman is a democrat in politics and on that ticket was elected constable, in which office he served three years. He is a communicant of the Catholic church, holding membership in the church in Thompson township, Seneca county. In his earlier years he led a very busy and active life and accumulated a property that now enables him to live retired, enjoying a well earned rest. He leaves the active work of the farm to his son John, who is an enterprising and progressive young farmer. His fraternal relations are with the Eagles and the Red Men. The Lehman family is an old and prominent one in Sherman township and the hospitality of the best homes in this section is freely accorded them.

E. V. B. BUCKINGHAM, M. D.

The life history of Dr. E. V. B. Buckingham constitutes an important chapter in the records of Huron county. He has never sought to figure prominently in political circles or public life and yet his ability in his profession and his worth as a man and a citizen entitle him to classification with the leading representatives of the community. He was born in Mansfield, Ohio, August 11, 1839, and has therefore reached the seventieth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Ezekiel and Catharine A. (Williams) Buckingham, natives of Baltimore, Maryland, and of Pennsylvania, respectively. The father arrived in Richmond township, Huron county, in 1842, and engaged in farming, his place of residence being about a mile from Chicago Junction. There year after year he carefully tilled the soil and carried on his work until his death in 1882, when he was

seventy-two years of age. His wife survived him until 1891 and passed away at the age of seventy-three years.

Dr. Buckingham acquired his early education in the country schools and afterward received the benefit of instruction in Plymouth high school. Subsequently he engaged in teaching in Richmond and New Haven townships for eight terms and at the same time he devoted his leisure hours to the study of medicine. His educational privileges were not equal to those which boys of the present day enjoy, for there was no school in the township at the time of his arrival. His mother, however, was a lady of intelligence and instructed him in many things, so that he learned much under her direction. He improved his opportunities of attending school as the occasion offered and has always been a broad reader, keeping in touch with the current thought of the day, while at the same time in his profession he has made continuous progress by his reading and investigation. In 1864 he was graduated in medicine from the Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, and in 1872 won the M. D. degree at Miami Medical College in Cincinnati. He began practice in Centerton, a village which has since given place to Chicago Junction, and in the intervening years he has remained at this location, enjoying a large and substantial practice. He has ministered to various families for many years until the children have grown up and reared families of their own. Throughout all the intervening period he has kept in touch with the trend of modern professional thought through his comprehensive study and is regarded today as one of the best informed physicians of the county. He has been honored with the presidency of the County Medical Society and holds membership with the State and American Medical Associations and also the Northwestern Medical Association. He is likewise a member of the International Association of Railway Surgeons and for eighteen years he filled the position of surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

In 1886 Dr. Buckingham was united in marriage to Miss Effie W. Pitts, a native of Richland county, Ohio, and unto them have been born two sons, Mendenhall and Huron E. W. The doctor is an Odd Fellow in his fraternal relations and in religious faith is a Methodist. His life has ever been actuated by high and honorable principles, manifest in citizenship as well as in professional relations. Not to know Dr. Buckingham in Chicago Junction and this part of the county is to argue one's self unknown. He is one of the most respected and reliable citizens, a man who has always stood four square to every wind that blows and who in every relation of life can be depended upon to conserve the interests of those things which are best and most worthy.

JOHN G. HOULE.

John G. Houle, a well known and prosperous agriculturist of Lyme township, is the owner of a finely improved farm of one hundred and eleven acres, most of which is in Erie county. His birth occurred in Lyme township on the 28th of January, 1856, his parents being William H. and Lucy (Gaydon) Houle, both of whom were natives of Devonshire, England, where they were married.

Almost immediately after the ceremony they sailed for the new world and on reaching the United States took up their abode in Lyme township, Huron county, the father here working as a farm hand for a number of years. Carefully saving his earnings, he was at length enabled to purchase a farm of his own and in 1876 bought the property which is now in possession of his sons, John G. and Fred, being successfully engaged in its cultivation and improvement until he passed away in 1892 at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, who survived him for several years, died on the 8th of February, 1899, when sixty-eight years of age. They were devoted and faithful members of the Lyme Congregational church and were well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and upright lives. Their children were seven in number, namely: William H.; John G., of this review; Jennie and Lucy, who are deceased; Frank, who is a professor in the schools at Martins Ferry; Ida, who has likewise passed away; and Fred, who with his brother, J. G., cultivates the home farm.

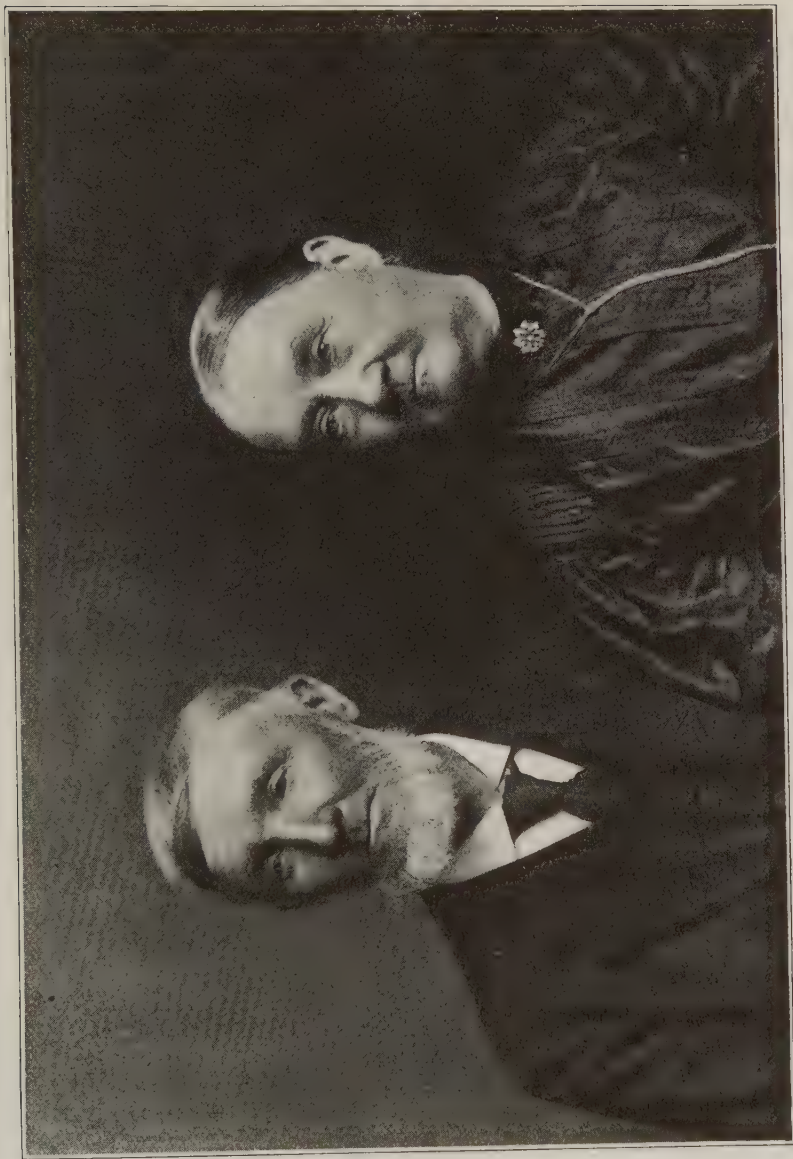
John G. Houle obtained his education in the district schools and with the exception of one year, which he spent on the old Wright farm in Groton township, Erie county, has continuously been a resident of Lyme township from his birth to the present time. Since putting aside his text-books he has given his undivided attention to the work of the fields and, as before stated, is now the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and eleven acres, which was purchased by his father from George Dole. The place is under a high state of cultivation and gives every evidence of his careful supervision and practical methods.

On the 5th of December, 1899, Mr. Houle was united in marriage to Miss Kate Becker, a daughter of Barney and Caroline (Beeler) Becker, who were early settlers of Lyme township. By reason of their long residence in this county both Mr. and Mrs. Houle are widely and favorably known here and the hospitality of their own home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

JOHN NORMAN.

John Norman, a retired farmer of Lyme township, Huron county, and the owner of one hundred and ten acres of land on which he lives, was born in England, March 30, 1835, the son of John and Mary (Ellis) Norman. Both parents died in the country which had always been their home, but in their lifetime had given to the world ten children, of whom John Norman and a younger brother Zachariah and one sister, Sarah Ann, who were the sixth, seventh and ninth in the family, respectively, alone survive, Samuel, Lydia, Ellis, Charles, Diana, Jesse and an infant having passed away.

John Norman came to the United States in 1858 and settled in Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio. At first he worked around for different farmers here until he was able to rent a small tract of land to cultivate for his own interests. By hard and diligent work, he was soon able to save up enough money to buy a little farm. This he cultivated up to a higher grade of productiveness, sold, and with the proceeds bought a larger piece, continuing this practice for some time



MR. AND MRS. JOHN NORMAN

until his good management and labor made it possible for him to purchase his present large farm in 1879. It was originally part of the old Sawyer farm, and is a valuable piece of land today, for Mr. Norman with knowing skill has improved it in every way possible. Some years ago, he gave up the active duties of life, rented his farm, and now lives in the enjoyment of a well deserved rest and comfort.

Mr. Norman was married twice. His first wife was Miss Sarah Ann Carpenter, by whom he had six children, but Charles and the youngest died in infancy. Of the other four, William E., living in Lyme township, married Miss Dora Daniels and has five sons, Roy, John, Ben, Gus and William; Mary M. is the wife of Gus Hesstler, of Bellevue; John lives at home; and Samuel M. married Miss Lena Wright and lives at Norwalk. He is the father of two children, Percy and Lillian M. Mr. Norman was again married December 24, 1886, his second union being with Mrs. Jane (Norman) Francis, the widow of Richard Francis, and the daughter of Samuel and Deborah (Pickering) Norman. Both her parents were born in England, the father in 1812, the mother in 1815. They came to this country when their daughter Jane was eighteen years of age and were accounted old settlers in this locality. Mrs. Norman was third in a family of five, of whom she and the oldest son, Samuel, alone survive, Anna, John and Eliza having passed away. By her former husband, Mrs. Norman had seven children: George W., who lives at home; Eliza A., who married Frank Ekert, of Norwalk, and is the mother of one child, Carl; Albert, now deceased, who married Miss Lottie Pence, and left three children, Mabel, Ralph and Leona; Cora, the wife of Fred Willard, of Cleveland, and the mother of three children, Ernest, Viola and Grace; and three little ones who died in infancy.

Mr. Norman is a member of the Episcopal church, but his wife is a regular attendant at the services of St. Joseph's Catholic church of Monroeville. He is a man who has lived the active years of his life profitably and well and has made many friends who do not begrudge him the rest he has so well earned nor the comfort he is now permitted to enjoy.

L. JAY GIFFORD.

L. Jay Gifford, owning and operating a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Fitchville township, is an agriculturist whose well directed energy and keen foresight are bringing to him a creditable measure of prosperity. His birth occurred in Genesee county, New York, on the 5th of February, 1857, his parents being Fernando and Maria L. (Green) Gifford, both of whom were likewise natives of Genesee county. The father was born July 20, 1825, while the mother first opened her eyes to the light of day, December 6, 1827. In 1818, Zalmon Green, the maternal grandfather of our subject, walked from Cayuga county, New York, to Fitchville, Huron county, Ohio, a distance of four hundred miles. Fernando Gifford, the father of L. Jay Gifford, followed general agricultural pursuits throughout the greater part of his life, meeting with success in his undertakings. In 1863 he made his way from the Empire state to

this county, here purchasing a tract of land of one hundred and twenty acres, a portion of which is now comprised within the boundaries of the farm belonging to his son, L. Jay Gifford. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he was deeply interested in all matters pertaining to the general welfare. For several terms he capably discharged the duties devolving upon him in the position of township trustee. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian and his life was at all times in harmony with the teachings of that church. His demise occurred July 17, 1893, and was deeply mourned by an extensive circle of friends and acquaintances. His wife, whom he wedded May 19, 1852, was called to her final rest September 6, 1902.

L. Jay Gifford was a little lad of six years when he accompanied his parents on the journey to Huron county in 1863. Reared on the home farm, he early became familiar with the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist and which have claimed his time and energies throughout his entire business career. Subsequent to the death of his father he took up his abode on the old family homestead, looking after his mother's interests until she, too, passed away. As time has passed and his financial resources have increased, owing to his untiring industry and judicious management, he has added to his landed holdings by additional purchase until his farm now embraces one hundred and seventy-five acres in Fitchville township. The soil is rich and productive and responds readily to cultivation, so that he annually gathers bounteous harvests which find a good sale on the market.

On the 13th of September, 1883, Mr. Gifford was joined in wedlock to Miss Marion B. Smith, a daughter of Thomas and Joanna Smith, of Fitchville. Their union has been blessed with one son, J. Floyd, who was born June 29, 1885, and is still under the parental roof.

Mr. Gifford is a stalwart republican in his political views but, though he is deeply interested in matters of public concern and has frequently been solicited to become a candidate for various positions, he has no desire for the honors and emoluments of office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his private affairs. He belongs to the Grange and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church. As he has lived for many years in this county, he was a wide acquaintance here and his friends know him as an enterprising farmer and a man of genuine worth.

NOBLE G. HURST.

Noble G. Hurst, whose carefully directed labors as an agriculturist and sheep raiser in former years brought him the competence that now enables him to live retired, was born in Henrietta, Lorain county, Ohio, on the 20th of September, 1856, his parents being John and Mary A. (Longway) Hurst. The paternal grandparents, John and Elizabeth (Drien) Hurst, were natives of Lincolnshire, England, and the grandfather served as a soldier in the English army for thirty-two years, participating in the wars of his country during that period. He was

stationed at Quebec and during his military service crossed the ocean four times. After being honorably discharged from the army he established his home in Quebec, where he spent the remainder of his life. John Hurst, the father of our subject, made the journey from Quebec to Ohio in company with his young bride, a settlement being made in Henrietta, Lorain county. His financial resources were very limited at the time of his arrival in this state but he possessed in large measure the sterling qualities of industry, honesty and frugality and as the years went by gained a handsome competence through the careful conduct of his agricultural interests. He was widely recognized as a most public-spirited, substantial and respected citizen and his death, which occurred on the 21st of October, 1892, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His wife was called to her final rest on the 29th of May, 1907, and both lie buried in Wakeman cemetery. Unto this worthy couple were born two sons and two daughters: Elizabeth P., whose demise occurred in June, 1882; Noble G., of this review; Margaret H.; and Melvin J.

Noble G. Hurst spent his youth on the home farm of his father and obtained his education in the public schools of Wakeman. Subsequent to his marriage he carried on agricultural pursuits in Wakeman for three years and then farmed in Camden, Lorain county, for two years. At the end of that time he returned to Wakeman, where he remained for four years and then once more located in Camden, Lorain county, there continuing for twenty years. In May, 1906, he again came to Wakeman and has here since lived retired, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. He has a fine home and twelve acres of land in the suburbs of the village of Wakeman and has become quite an extensive landowner, possessing two farms on the county line between Wakeman and Camden, Lorain county. Both farms, comprising one hundred and fifty and one hundred and forty acres of land respectively, are well improved and under a high state of cultivation. Throughout his business career Mr. Hurst was engaged in general farming and sheep raising, in which lines of activity he was eminently successful, gaining recognition as one of the county's most substantial, progressive and representative citizens.

On the 29th of November, 1876, Mr. Hurst was united in marriage to Miss Ida A. Pierce, a daughter of Elbert B. and Hattie A. (Beecher) Pierce, who were prominent pioneer settlers of Wakeman. This union was blessed with one child, Mabel E., who is now the wife of Clayton E. Ford, a well known agriculturist of Clyde, Oakland county, Michigan. Mrs. Ida A. Hurst passed away when her little daughter was but five weeks old, and on the 22d of April, 1885, Mr. Hurst was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary M. Morgan. Her parents, David and Agnes (Scott) Morgan, of Camden, Lorain county, spent their entire married life, covering more than fifty years, on the same farm. They came to this district when it was a dense forest but with characteristic energy Mr. Morgan set to work to cut down the trees and gradually transformed the once wild tract into a productive farm and ideal home. Both he and his wife are now deceased and lie buried in the cemetery at Camden, Lorain county. Unto Mr. Hurst and his second wife were born the following children: Edna M., now the wife of Sumner E. Todd; Blaine N.; Meryl L.; and one who died in infancy. With a full realization of the value of good

mental training as a preparation for the practical and responsible duties of life, Mr. Hurst has given his children the best educational advantages obtainable.

In his political views Mr. Hurst is a stalwart republican and an enthusiastic advocate of all measures and movements calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development. He is especially interested in the efforts to keep the public highways free from weeds that may contaminate adjacent farms. A man of domestic tastes, he greatly enjoys the companionship of his wife and children and is a most loving and devoted husband and father. Both he and his wife possess in large measure the confidence and esteem of those with whom they have come in contact, and the hospitality of their pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

NOAH YOUNG.

Noah Young is living retired in a beautiful residence in Collins, which has been his home since 1905, but he still retains possession of his farming property of one hundred and fifty acres, from which he derives a good annual rental. Mr. Young was born in Townsend township, November 24, 1840, a son of Mahlon and Orrilla (Young) Young. The father's people removed from the far east by teams to Ohio in 1812, making a location in Richland county, this state. At that time few families had settled in the county, much of the land in Richland county being still in possession of the Indians, while wild game was also abundant. The mother's people came to the Buckeye state from Vermont. Upon reaching the district on which Monroeville now stands, they sought a place to stay for the night at a cabin by the side of the old Indian trail, for as yet no roads had been laid out. The family from whom they sought shelter proved to be relatives of Mahlon Young, who, though of the same name, were not related to the parents of Orrilla Young. The family arrived about the year 1830, and being pleased with Huron county, the father here purchased a farm, and in the following spring made a trip to Indiana and purchased six hundred and forty acres there, but never removed to that state, Monroeville proving more attractive to him as a place of residence. The children of the two Young families grew up together in that pioneer district and in due time Mahlon Young and Orrilla Young were united in marriage. They established their home on a farm near Monroeville, where they lived two or three years, and in the spring of 1840, Mahlon Young purchased a farm in Townsend township, on which he took up his abode. He was a cooper by trade and in connection with his farming interests also followed his trade. His farm, consisting of one hundred acres, was to be paid for in barrels, a certain number to be made each year until the debt of the farm was liquidated. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Young were born seven children, Sylvia, Noah, John, Martha, Mary, Mahlon and Orrilla. Of these all are living with the exception of John. He served in the Civil war as a member of Company F, Third Ohio Cavalry, enlisting for three years. During his service he was drowned at Macon, Georgia, while bathing. Both the parents are now deceased, the mother surviving the father's death about five years. Both lie buried in the cemetery at Collins.

Noah Young was reared on the home farm, assisting his father with the work of the fields during the period of his boyhood and youth. In the winter seasons he pursued his education in the district schools. When he had reached the age of eighteen years, ambitious to start out in life for himself, he left home and secured employment from William Manahan at farm labor, remaining with him two years. He agreed to pay his father one hundred dollars for his time until he attained his majority but the father released him at the end of that time by the payment of eighty dollars. While employed by Mr. Manahan, Mr. Young attended school for about ten weeks each winter, thus completing his studies. It was about this time that the father removed to Collins and Noah Young and his brother John rented the home farm, their sister Sylvia acting as their housekeeper. After about a year the brother joined the army and thus the entire management of the farm devolved upon Mr. Young of this review.

Mr. Young further established a home of his own by his marriage on the 24th of November, 1864, to Miss Emma Jarrett, a daughter of Elias and Sarah (Siphlet) Jarrett, a prominent pioneer family of Huron county. Following his marriage Mr. Young continued to operate the home farm until 1865, and then operated rented land for three years. In the meantime, however, he purchased a farm in Townsend township and eventually took up his abode thereon, where he remained five years. He then disposed of that tract and bought one hundred and fifty acres, a mile and a half from Collins, in Townsend township. He was engaged in the cultivation and improvement of this farm throughout a long period and in the years that have come and gone not only made it a valuable property but also annually gathered good crops, thus greatly enhancing his financial condition. In 1905 he abandoned all business pursuits and removed to Collins, where he occupies a nice modern home but he still retains possession of his farm and derives a good rental therefrom. While on the farm Mr. Young also engaged in raising chickens on quite an extensive scale, being ably assisted in this enterprise by his wife.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Young were born four children: Sarah, the wife of Lewis Krepps, a resident of Townsend township; Rosa, the wife of Joseph Bate, of Fremont; George, who is married and resides in Fremont; and Arthur, who is also married and makes his home in Colorado. After a happy married life of forty-two years Mr. and Mrs. Young were separated by the death of the wife, which occurred October 19, 1906. Mrs. Young was a most estimable woman, active in every good work and beloved by all who knew her. She was a true friend, a faithful wife and devoted mother, and all who knew her are full of her praises and all mourn the loss of a good woman. Her remains were interred in the cemetery at Collins. Mr. Young was again married, April 15, 1908, his second union being with Mrs. Minnie Humphrey, the widow of Jefferson Humphrey, and a daughter of Henry and Eliza (Green) Alder, formerly of Cleveland but later residents of Elkhart, Indiana. Both parents are now deceased. By her former marriage Mrs. Young had two children: Ruth, now the wife of Robert A. Wise of Cleveland; and Katharine, the wife of A. B. Shellen-trager, also of Cleveland. Mrs. Young is an estimable woman and presides with gracious hospitality over her home, which is noted for its culture and refinement.

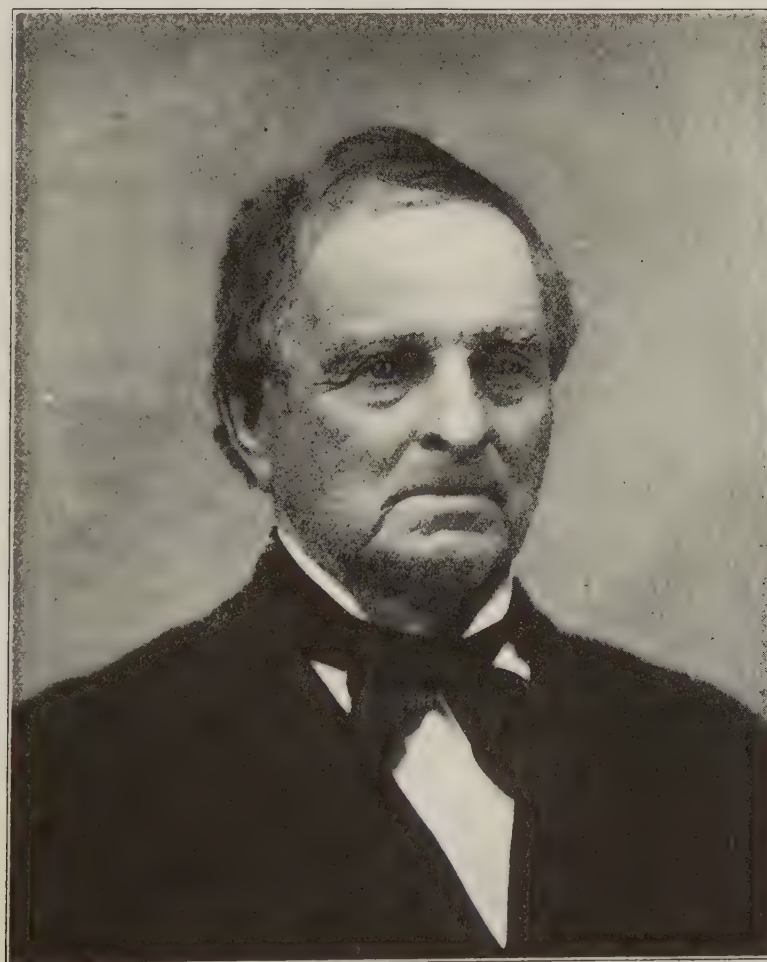
A republican in his political views, Mr. Young has ever taken a deep interest in all public matters. For six years he served as township trustee, while for many years he acted as road supervisor and as a member of the school board. He is a member of Townsend Grange and is a charter member of the Patrons of Husbandry. He is most public spirited, every movement calculated to benefit his home locality, receiving his hearty endorsement. Starting out as he did when but a youth, he has gradually worked his way upward until today, he stands among the substantial citizens of Huron county, respected and esteemed by all who know him.

WILLIAM A. CANFIELD.

The history of Huron county could not be written without mention of the honored name of Canfield, for the lives of the members of that pioneer family are indissolubly connected with her early development and progress. Augustine Canfield, grandfather of the gentleman whose name heads this review, was one of the sturdy New Englanders, who braved the hardships and uncertainties of pioneer life in the early years of the Nineteenth century to found a home for themselves and their progeny. With his family he left his Connecticut home, and in May, 1817, arrived in the almost trackless forest of Huron county. He soon located, choosing the spot in Wakeman township where William now resides. His was the first white family to settle in the township and the farm was virgin forest, not a clearing in the township. The usual log cabin was erected, bark roof and floor, with a greased cloth in the window for light, and the battle against the elements was begun. Theirs was the "simple life" indeed, but they were happy in it, even with the lack of the comforts and conveniences of civilization. As time passed these were added and were the more appreciated, because of their scarcity. The grandparents lived out their time and laid down their burden, having been factors in the establishment of correct principles and a healthy moral status.

Calvert C. Canfield, the father of our subject, was a part of all this, being active in the county's affairs. He served two terms as county commissioner and held various offices of trust, all with efficiency. He is remembered as a man of strong character, virile and vigorous, and of uncompromising principle. He won success abundantly, becoming a large landowner with some five hundred acres. He reared a family of six children: Sarah E., Alban J., William A., Francis A., Darwin and George E. Of these Alban J. and Darwin are deceased. On April 27, 1895, the father passed peacefully away, aged eighty-six years, his wife having laid down the burden of life May 14, 1882. She bore the maiden name of Mary E. Hanford and was also a member of an honored pioneer family.

Noting the more salient points in the career of the second son, William A. Canfield, his birth occurred at the old homestead, May 17, 1841. With a public-school education and the practical training of a well conducted farm, he began life, teaching school successfully for some ten years in the winter and tilling a farm near where he now lives, in the summer, this place having since been added to his holdings. Heeding the call of his country on May 2, 1864, he enlisted as a private



CALVERT C. CANFIELD

soldier in Company H, One Hundred and Sixth-sixth Regiment, O. V. I., serving in the Army of the Potomac one hundred days. He then returned and resumed his former life until 1874, when he went to Sandusky and entered the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, as a cashier. He remained with this company for seven years, doing efficient service, and then became station agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, at the same place. In May, 1899, he removed to Cleveland, where he acted as shipping agent for several large coal companies, handling their lake shipping business. But the farmer boy never gets so high up in business or so far away from the farm that he can completely stifle the desire to return. The family came back to the old homestead in 1890, and in 1892, Mr. Canfield, himself retired from business and has since tilled the soil of his fathers. He has added to the original tract until his holdings aggregate five hundred and forty-seven acres. The different farms are thoroughly appointed, well tiled, and with ample equipment in buildings for the successful prosecution of a general farming business, to which Mr. Canfield now gives his entire time. His home is on the same site where, in 1828, his grandfather erected his house, which was the first frame house in Wakeman township.

Mr. Canfield's political allegiance lies with the republican party, his religious life being passed in the Congregational church, the whole family being active workers, and prominent in all its interests.

On the 24th of August, 1863, William A. Canfield married Jane A. Whitney, a daughter of Abel and Jane Levira (Beecher) Whitney, the family coming to Huron county from the Nutmeg state, in 1849. Their children were: Eunice O., Ruggles N., Hannah E., Charles P., Frederick A., Theodora B. and Jane A. Hannah, Frederick and Mrs. Canfield are the living members, the father dying August 8, 1887, and the mother February 28, 1889. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Canfield are: Calvert C., who is married and lives in Cleveland, Ohio, where he is engaged in the shipping business; and Mary Levira, who was graduated at Oberlin college and is now a successful teacher. The family are widely and favorably known and their home is a hospitable one, its appointments being such as to attract strangers and friends alike.

WILLIAM H. HOULE.

William H. Houle, who is successfully engaged in farming in Lyme township, who is operating one hundred and eighty acres of land in Huron county, which is owned by his wife and her sister, and sixty-three acres that lie in Erie county, was born in this county May 11, 1854. His parents, William H. and Lucy (Gordon) Houle, were natives of Devonshire, England, where they were reared, became acquainted and were married, but almost immediately after the wedding ceremony they embarked on the journey to America. Seven weeks and two days was the length of time it took them to cross the ocean, and their departure to this country was a much more serious undertaking than it is regarded today. Upon their arrival in the United States, Mr. and Mrs. Houle settled in Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio, in 1853, where for several years the father

was employed at various pursuits. Then he bought one acre of land near the church and rented other property, which he cultivated with so great profit to himself that in 1872 he was able to purchase the old homestead in Erie and Huron counties. On this the seven children, with which the couple were blessed, were reared and here the parents died, the father on January 2, 1892, and the mother in February, 1897.

William H. Houle was the eldest of this family of seven children: John G., the brother next younger, lives upon the old homestead; Jennie died in her youth; Lucy has also passed away; Frank G. is a teacher in the schools at Martin's Ferry; Ida Mary is deceased; and Fred lives on the old homestead. William H. Houle has always lived in this county. He received his early preparation for life under the parental roof and in district schools here and in the schools of Bellevue. As might be surmised his early years were closely identified with farming interests, but in 1881 he entered for a time the business world. In that year he went to North Dakota, where he remained for about fifteen months, selling farm implements. Upon returning to this section of the country he still continued in this line of work and had more than a fair degree of success in sales in this vicinity. When opportunity offered, however, he severed his connection with the business and has since devoted all his attention and time to the cultivating of the farm.

On the 1st of January, 1884, Mr. Houle was married to Miss Jennie A. Collins, a daughter of J. D. and Mary (Webster) Collins, who are old settlers in this vicinity and are well and favorably known. Mr. and Mrs. Houle have one son, Albert C., who was born August 21, 1887. At present he is attending college at Ann Arbor, for he has shown more than the usual predilection for study. Before he entered the university he attended the schools here and was graduated from the high school at Bellevue, and during several summers attended the classes at Wooster, where Mr. Houle's brother was a teacher.

The hard, persistent work which Mr. Houle has put into the farm has resulted in the compensation which the years have brought him. He possesses those traits of character most needed by him who seeks his livelihood from the soil and has won a well deserved success. He has not given much time to local affairs, aside from casting his influence on the side of right and order, but has evinced considerable interest in the welfare of the Congregational church, which his fellow members have appreciated in electing him a trustee of the body.

JAY C. PARK.

Jay C. Park is the owner of three hundred, sixty-two and a quarter acres of valuable land in Huron county and is numbered among the leading agriculturists of his part of the state. He was born in Huron county, November 16, 1869. His father, Joseph Park, was born in Ireland, March 17, 1828, and came to America with his parents when a boy of eighteen. He located in Huron county with his father, Joseph Park, Sr. Joseph Park, Jr., worked on the farm for a few years and about 1847 he drove a transportation wagon through to California

and after a few years he commenced mining. In that work he met with success and returned to Ohio with sufficient means to buy the old homestead which his son, Jay C., now owns. He was then identified with agricultural interests throughout his remaining days. He was active in public affairs and for several years served as assessor. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he held membership in the Presbyterian church.

Jay C. Park acquired his education in the district schools and the Norwalk high school, which he attended for three and one-half years. He has always been a farmer, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors of the field as he assisted his father through the period of his boyhood and youth. At the age of eighteen he took charge of his father's farm and continued as the manager until 1904, when his father died and Jay C. Park removed to his own farm of one hundred acres. He also inherited the old homestead of one hundred and eleven acres, which he still owns. He intends always to keep it and maintain it in honor and memory of his good and kind parents. In 1908 Mr. Park purchased eighty-five acres of land so that his title holdings are now three hundred, sixty-two and a quarter acres. This constitutes some of the valuable farming property of the county and in its management and control Mr. Park displays excellent business ability and unfaltering diligence.

On the 28th of October, 1896, Mr. Park was united in marriage to Miss Dora E. Mead, who was born December 28, 1875. They are now parents of one son, Frank Mead Park, born September 11, 1899. Mrs. Park is a daughter of F. M. Mead, of Huron county.

In his political views Mr. Park is an earnest republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. His religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Presbyterian church and also in his life, which is in strict conformity with his principles.

GEORGE FRANCIS TITUS.

George Francis Titus, office manager for the F. B. Case Tobacco Company of Norwalk, in which responsible position he has figured for many years, was born in Erie county, New York, on the 17th of August, 1853, and represents an old New England family. His father, George A. Titus, was a native of Dedham, Massachusetts, where he resided until after his marriage, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Briggs, a native of Erie county, New York. Subsequently he removed to that county but after a brief period came to Norwalk, Ohio, where he located in 1854. Here he secured employment in the shops of the Cleveland & Toledo Railroad Company. He commenced as a car builder and was advanced until he became foreman of the car shops, so continuing until the plant was removed from Norwalk. He was well known as a prominent and worthy representative of the industrial interests of the city and his business enterprise and integrity won him the high respect and confidence of those with whom he came in contact. He died in Norwalk in 1905 at the age of seventy-seven years, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1856. There were three chil-

dren in their family: Willis A., who is now a resident of Cleveland; Nellie, now Mrs. Burkhardt, of Massillon, Ohio; and George F.

The last named was only about a year old when the parents removed from the Empire state to this city and at the usual age he entered the public schools where he continued his studies until he was graduated from the grammar department. He then put aside his text-books and for two years was employed in a grocery store, at the end of which time he resumed his studies, entering Oberlin College, where he remained for a considerable period. When the F. B. Case Tobacco Company was formed he secured a position in the office and has been with the company continuously since, acting for a long period as office manager. He neglects none of the duties or responsibilities which devolve upon him in this connection and has the entire confidence of the company which he has thus represented for a long period. While in the employ of the Case Company, Mr. Titus devoted his leisure hours to the study of law and in 1881 was admitted to the bar. He has since been a representative of the profession in Norwalk, although his attention is chiefly given to his office management.

In 1876, Mr. Titus was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. Cook, a native of Indiana and a daughter of Jackson Cook, of Huntingdon, that state. Three daughters have been born of this union: Clara, now the wife of A. J. Trumble, a resident of Cleveland; Lura M., the wife of W. A. Fisher, living in Norwalk; and Gertrude E., now the wife of C. G. Pheil, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Mr. Titus has always taken an active part in politics and public affairs. He gives stalwart allegiance to the democratic party, has served as a member of the board of education and on the water works board and in 1907 was elected vice-mayor. His fidelity and capability in the discharge of his official duties are salient factors in his life. At all times he has been a man loyal to every trust reposed in him, whether of a public or private nature, and his worth as an individual and a citizen have won for him a firm hold on the regard of his fellow townsmen.

MANDERVILLE V. ARMSTRONG.

Manderville V. Armstrong, now living retired in a pleasant home in the suburbs of the village of Wakeman, was born in Otsego county, New York, on the 28th of August, 1837, his parents being William and Eunice (Gibson) Armstrong. The father, who was a stonemason and plasterer by trade, assisted in the construction of the Erie canal and the entire canal system of the state of New York. In 1852 he brought his wife and children to Ohio, the family home being established in Sullivan township, Ashland county. He continued to work at his trade after becoming a resident of this state and in 1861 came to Wakeman township, Huron county, where he successfully followed the stonemason's trade until enfeebled health necessitated his retirement from active labor. He was widely recognized as a man of many sterling traits of character and unfaltering integrity and his death, which occurred on the 24th of June, 1894, was the occasion of deep regret among his many friends. He lived to attain the venerable age of ninety-eight years and the record of his honorable and useful career is still

cherished by all who knew him. His remains were interred in the cemetery at Wakeman, as were also those of his wife, whose demise occurred March 3, 1884, when she was eighty-four years of age. Unto this worthy couple were born eleven children, namely: Daniel, Harriet, Andrew, Elizabeth and William, all of whom are deceased; Manderville V., of this review; Ann; Henry, who died in infancy; Emmer; Ellen; and Polly J.

Manderville V. Armstrong obtained his education in the public schools of his native county and in early manhood learned the stonemason's trade, working at that occupation in association with his father for twenty-five years, throughout the counties of Huron, Lorain, Erie, Medina, Ashland and others. Subsequent to his marriage he took up his abode in Wakeman and has here since continued to make his home. He worked at his trade for a number of years and also engaged in farming to some extent, while during the early period in Wakeman's history he conducted a dray line for eight years. In 1890 he was appointed superintendent of the Wakeman cemetery and continued in that capacity until the spring of 1909, when he resigned because of advanced age. He possesses considerable skill as a landscape gardener and met with great success in the care of the shrubs and flowers under his supervision, the Wakeman cemetery being recognized as one of the most beautiful "cities of the dead" in the entire state. The prosperity which has attended him in his various undertakings is but the merited reward of his well directed and untiring labor and enterprise and he has long been numbered among the most substantial, respected and progressive citizens of the county.

On the 30th of June, 1870, Mr. Armstrong was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Kingsbury, a daughter of Lemuel and Jerusha M. (Durbin) Kingsbury, who were natives of New York. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Armstrong were born in Otis, Massachusetts, and took up their abode in the state of New York in the early years of the eighteenth century. Lemuel H. Kingsbury, the grandfather, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war and lies buried in the Wakeman cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury, the parents of Mrs. Armstrong, were married on the 20th of February, 1844, and came to Ohio in 1845. The father, a shoemaker by trade, was well known and highly esteemed for his many excellent traits of character and genuine personal worth. His family numbered ten children, five sons and five daughters, as follows: Mary A., James M., Daniel D., Martha A., Sarah A., Ruth E., Lemuel M., John A., Jane A., and Romaine J. Of these, James M., Romaine J. and Daniel B. served as loyal defenders of the Union during the Civil war, the two first named laying down their lives on the altar of their country. Daniel B., however, returned safely to his family. The Kingsburys were farming people, whose time and energies were largely given to the cultivation of the soil. Lemuel Kingsbury, the father of Mrs. Armstrong, was called to his final rest on the 7th of September, 1879, while his wife passed away on the 28th of April, 1881. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong have been born two daughters: Clara M., who is now the wife of George Coon, of Wakeman; and Ella J., at home.

In his political views Mr. Armstrong is a staunch republican, has always been an active worker in the local ranks of the party and has frequently served as a delegate to county, district and state conventions. In the position of road

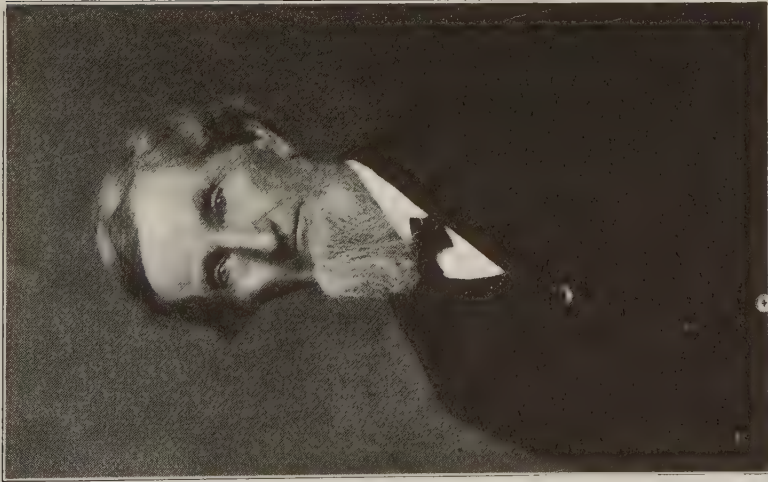
supervisor of Wakeman township, which office he held for six years, he won a reputation for efficiency and fidelity that could hardly be surpassed. "Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well" has ever been his motto and this constitutes the secret of his success. He is an enthusiastic advocate of all public improvements that tend to promote the general welfare and his influence is ever given on the side of right, truth, justice and progress. For more than fifty years he has been identified with the Disciples church, of which the other members of his family are also valued members. For the past several years Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and their daughter, Ella J., have spent the winter season in Florida but during the rest of the year reside near the village of Wakeman, owning an attractive and commodious home, which is justly noted for its gracious and warm-hearted hospitality. A well spent life, characterized by all that is honorable in business and straightforward in his relations with his fellowmen, has brought Mr. Armstrong the uniform respect of all with whom he has come in contact and it is with pleasure that we present the record of his career to our readers.

IRA M. GILLETT.

The name of Gillett is an old and prominent one in Huron county, for representatives of the family have been associated with its agricultural development since 1839, and Ira M. Gillett of this review was one whose labors were directed in this line as well as that of carpentering. His death occurred February 1, 1908, and thus the county lost one of its most valued and substantial citizens. Mr. Gillett was born in Spafford, Onondaga county, New York, June 18, 1826, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Gillett, who, on removing westward from the Empire state, located on a farm in Huron county.

Ira M. Gillett was a lad of thirteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Huron county, and as they took up their abode upon a farm, the son was reared to agricultural pursuits, assisting his father in the development and improvement of the home place. He was a young man of twenty-six years, when in 1852, he purchased fifty-three acres of land in Norwalk township and thus started out upon an independent business venture. The land when it came into his possession was a wilderness, but with characteristic energy and high ambitions, Mr. Gillett at once undertook to clear the land and in due time had it under a good state of cultivation. As the years passed, he continued to add improvements to his place and eventually made it a valuable property, on which he spent his remaining days and which at his death was left in possession of his widow. Mr. Gillett was a carpenter by trade and in addition to his farming operations also worked at that occupation, thus acquiring a good living for himself and family.

Mr. Gillett chose as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life, Miss Caroline M. Clawson, who was born in North Hector, New York, February 26, 1836, their marriage being celebrated on the 21st of December, 1854. She is a daughter of John G. and Clarissa Clawson. The former was a carpenter by trade and coming to Huron county in 1835, here worked at his trade for a time. A few



MR. AND MRS. IRA M. GILLETTE

months after his arrival, he was followed by his wife and infant daughter, who was then six months old. She was but three years of age when the family took up their abode in Milan, and three years later they removed to the Lockwood road, where Mr. Clawson purchased a sixty-acre tract of wilderness. He cleared his land, erected his own dwelling and in time made the place a valuable one. In addition to tilling his fields, in which he was assisted by his sons, he also engaged in shipbuilding and cabinet making, constructing fine coffins, etc. He assisted in building the first gristmill in Clarksfield, this county, and in many ways was a progressive and influential citizen of this community. In 1865, he purchased a farm in Bronson township and removing to that place, there spent his remaining days. He was a republican in his political views and a Baptist in religious faith. Mr. and Mrs. Clawson reared a family of nine children and all lived to be more than fifty years of age. The father departed this life February 14, 1871, and the mother, surviving for many years, passed away November 14, 1894. Thus Huron county lost two of its prominent pioneer residents.

Mr. and Mrs. Gillett celebrated their golden wedding December 21, 1904. They were the parents of four children, three daughters and one son, namely: Charity I., who was born June 7, 1857, and is still with her mother on the old home farm; Mrs. Clara M. Miller, who was born July 13, 1863; Mrs. Matilda R. Taylor, whose birth occurred June 3, 1866; and Mortimer S., twin brother of Matilda, who wedded Miss Elizabeth W. Thomasson.

Mr. Gillett gave his political support to the men and measures of democracy, while his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church. He possessed a remarkably retentive memory and was ever a deep student of history. He was one of the directors of the Firelands Historical Society for many years and wrote many articles of historic interest, which were published in the new series of the Firelands Historical Pioneer Life, which are mentioned in the historical portion of this work. He took a prominent part in all matters pertaining to the progress and upbuilding of Huron county and always stood ready and willing to aid and co-operate in any movement that might prove beneficial to the public. Honest and upright in every relation of life, Huron county was fortunate in numbering him among her citizens.

HARLEY F. FLETCHER.

Harley F. Fletcher is an enterprising, progressive and prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of Clarksfield township, owning and operating more than two hundred acres of rich and valuable land, from which he derives a good annual return. He was born on the 18th of August, 1859, in the same house in which he now resides, his parents being William and Maria (Vrowman) Fletcher, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. They made their way to this county at an early period in its development, the father purchasing the farm on which his son, Harley F., now resides when it was still entirely covered with timber. With characteristic energy, however, he set to work to clear away the trees and soon had the land ready for cultivation. Owing to his well directed

and untiring industry, he prospered in his farming operations as the years went by and became widely recognized as a substantial and respected citizen of the community. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he was most progressive and loyal in citizenship. He was an exemplary member of the Baptist church, in the faith of which he passed away on the 28th of May, 1879, his remains being interred in the Clarksfield cemetery. His wife, whose demise occurred when her son, Harley F., was but thirteen years of age, also lies buried in that cemetery. Unto this worthy couple were born seven children, namely: William H.; George; Charles, who is deceased; Andrew J.; Mary J. and Daniel W., who have also passed away; and Harley F., of this review.

The last named was reared on the old home farm and attended the district schools of his native township in the acquirement of an education. On putting aside his text-books he began working as a farm hand by the month and was thus busily engaged until the time of his marriage. He then took up his abode on the old family homestead in Clarksfield township and has here since continued to reside, devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits with gratifying success. He started out on his own account with a tract of twenty acres but, as he prospered in his undertakings, gradually added to his landed holdings until he now owns over two hundred acres of rich and fertile soil. In addition to the cultivation of the fields he also raises stock to some extent and, as the result of his unremitting industry and capable management, has gained a place among the representative and enterprising agriculturists of his native county.

On the 21st of December, 1879, Mr. Fletcher was united in marriage to Miss Ella Vosburgh, a daughter of John and Jane (Johnston) Vosburgh, of Camden, Lorain county. Their union was blessed with one son, Earl F., who is now married and lives on a farm adjoining that of his parents.

Politically Mr. Fletcher is an ardent republican and is always deeply interested in matters pertaining to the general welfare. At the present time he is serving in the position of township trustee, while for several years he has been a member of the township board of education. He and his family are devoted and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and exemplify its teachings in their daily lives. They are widely and favorably known in the community and enjoy the warm regard and esteem of all with whom they have come in contact.

GEORGE WASHINGTON RUNYAN.

When taking into consideration his years of continuous connection with journalistic interests, George Washington Runyan is one of the oldest newspaper men in northern Ohio, having since 1871 been the publisher of the New London Record. His birth occurred in New London, Huron county, Ohio, on the 14th of May, 1851, his parents being Nathaniel and Phebe (Cookingham) Runyan, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. They were numbered among the early pioneer settlers of this state, taking up their abode here in 1837.

The father, who was a shoemaker by trade, followed that occupation in early manhood but subsequently conducted a general mercantile establishment in New London. He passed away in 1882, having long survived his wife, who was called to her final rest in 1856. They had four sons who served in the Civil war, two of them being members of the Twenty-third Ohio Regiment, known as McKinley's Regiment. At that time William McKinley was a private in the regiment, while Rutherford B. Hayes served as colonel.

George W. Runyan obtained his education in the public schools of his native town, literature, geography and grammar being his favorite studies. At the age of seventeen years he put aside his text-books and entered the village printing office in the capacity of printer's devil or office boy. After repeated failures on the part of persons who attempted to make a newspaper a success, he obtained possession of the office in 1871, when but twenty years of age. Six months afterward the establishment was destroyed by fire. Nothing daunted, however, Mr. Runyan started out anew, contracting a debt of several hundred dollars in order to do so. By close application and unfaltering perseverance he finally piloted the enterprise to a self-supporting basis and now ranks among the oldest publishers in northern Ohio, having edited the New London Record for the past thirty-eight years. The Record is the first and only newspaper in New London and its publisher is widely recognized as a prominent and progressive representative of journalistic interests in Huron county.

On the 25th of June, 1872, Mr. Runyan was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Elizabeth Messenger, who as compositor in the office of the New London Record aided in permanently establishing the enterprise. They have two children: Marie Messenger, born October 6, 1891; and Lena May, whose birth occurred May 17, 1896.

Where national questions and issues are involved Mr. Runyan gives his political allegiance to the republican party but at local elections casts an independent ballot, supporting the candidate whom he regards as best qualified for office. He has served as a member of the board of education in New London for nineteen years. Fraternally he is identified with New London Lodge, No. 615, I. O. O. F., of which he is a past grand. His life in all of its phases has been thoroughly honorable and he is an advocate of temperance, never using intoxicants or tobacco. A resident of the county throughout his entire life, he has a very wide acquaintance here and many good qualities have gained for him the regard and esteem of all with whom he has been associated.

JOSEPH A. DENMAN.

Joseph A. Denman, a successful and enterprising agriculturist of Wakeman township, was born in that township on the 14th of May, 1853, and is the eldest child of Edward and Jane (Archer) Denman, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. J. A. Denman was reared under the parental roof and obtained his education in the common schools of his native township. Subsequent to his marriage he settled on a farm on the outskirts of the village of

Wakeman, and has here since continued to make his home, devoting his time and energies to the pursuit of farming and to the buying and shipping of stock and fruit. Energetic, industrious and progressive, he has met with a commendable measure of prosperity in his undertakings and is numbered among the substantial and representative citizens of the community.

On the 12th of October, 1871, occurred the marriage of Mr. Denman and Miss Frances L. Pierce, a daughter of Lemuel B. and Eunice (Burr) Pierce. Unto them were born four sons, namely Perry P., a resident of Coffeyville, Kansas; Ralph R. and Tracy A., living in Columbus, Ohio; and Loyd B., who is at home. The wife and mother passed away in January, 1903, her demise being the occasion of deep and widespread regret.

In his political views Mr. Denman is a stalwart republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which the other members of his family are also identified. Having spent his entire life in this county, he has an extensive circle of friends within its borders and is well worthy the regard and esteem which are uniformly accorded him.

ARTHUR B. VIALI.

Arthur B. Viall, who is conducting a wall paper business on Main street, Bellevue, Ohio, was one of the first men to engage in mercantile affairs in that city. He was born October 29, 1843, in Akron, Ohio, the son of Bennett and Sarah (Anderson) Viall. The former also claimed Akron as his birth place, his birth occurring in 1821. In the prime of his early manhood, at the age of twenty-three, he was taken from those who loved him, leaving a wife and a baby son, Arthur. His widow who was one year the junior, survived him for over twenty years, and for her second husband she married George Barber. Of this union there were two children: Charles and Luella.

Arthur B. Viall passed the years of his childhood and youth in Summit county, Ohio. They were quiet enough years, with little but happy memories to recount, but they engendered an eagerness to be out in the world where one might make a name and a fair fortune for himself. He was but eighteen years of age when he formed the determination to be up and doing for himself, and came to Bellevue to obtain his first business experience. His initial position was as a clerk in the employ of C. A. Willard and Company, who conducted an enterprising dry-goods store here. A few months before he attained his majority, on the 1st of May, 1864, Mr. Viall responded to the call for aid in the defense of his country and enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was stationed at Arlington Heights, Virginia, but had no further opportunity to prove his valor, for in the following fall was mustered out at Cleveland, Ohio. The will to fight for the Union in his case had to be taken in place of many wounds and sufferings, which the hand that guided his destiny spared him, though it deprived him of the honor of being enrolled among those who sacrificed themselves for the good of the cause. On returning from the war he engaged in the dry-goods business, which he followed for some

twelve years or more, winning from it a deserved success. About five years ago he opened his wall paper establishment in this town and has since then been doing a creditable business.

On the 3d of May, 1868, Mr. Viall was united in marriage to Miss Clara E. Miller, the daughter of Samuel Miller, an old settler of Huron county. Five children have been born to bless this union. Bennett, the eldest, married Miss Gertrude Hoyt and is at present living in Bellevue, the father of five children: Esther, Arthur, Robert, Dorothy and Gertrude. Gertrude, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Viall, died in her tenth year. Elizabeth, the next in the family, married Harry DeWitt and makes her home in Bellevue. Ruth married Milton Squares of Bellevue and they have two daughters, Ruth and Dorothy. The fifth child in the Viall home died in infancy.

Mr. Viall is a member of the Congregational church of Bellevue and makes of his religion a matter of daily practice. He is a man who has been found most honorable in his dealings with those persons who have made a demand upon his services, and enjoys the good will of the community. The people gave some indication of their confidence in his judgment and abilities when six years ago they elected him a member of the school board, which position he has filled to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. Of the local Grand Army post he is past commander and has been for years the adjutant of the post.

PETER LORETZ.

Prominent in the ranks of the worthy agricultural class of Huron county is Peter Loretz of Wakeman township, who lives on a splendidly appointed farm of two hundred and four acres, well tilled and under a high state of cultivation. He gives attention chiefly to general farming, but like most successful farmers has a specialty. In his case it is the Jersey cow, his herd being noted as one of the finest in the county.

Peter Loretz comes naturally by his love for pasture land, his parents having come from Switzerland. Jerome and Barbara (Yerger) Loretz were married in the little mountain republic and shortly afterward set out for the great republic across the sea, in 1854. They came direct to Huron county, Ohio, where Mr. Loretz found lucrative employment in a sawmill. Later the family removed to Norwalk, where they have since resided, respected and esteemed citizens.

Peter Loretz was born in Peru, Huron county, May 25, 1855, and was reared in Norwalk, receiving a good public-school education before beginning the battle of life. At nineteen years he began at the very bottom of the ladder as a section hand on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway. Faithful and industrious here, he advanced by rounds to freight and passenger conductor, remaining in the latter position some fifteen years, to the time of his final retirement from railroading in 1899. The railroad company found in Mr. Loretz a careful and painstaking employe, who looked after the interests of a corporation with the same fidelity as he looked after his own. In 1884 he purchased the farm where he now resides and conducts it in company with his son Reuben. He puts into

the cultivation of this farm the same intelligent comprehension of affairs agricultural which marked his railroad experience. There is "a place for everything," and the movements on the farm go on with the regularity attending the "block" system on the railroad.

The family life of Mr. Loretz began with his marriage to Miss Louisa George, of Huron county, June 13, 1878. Mrs. Loretz was a daughter of Peter and Mary (Lawrence) George, farmers who lived near Peru. To this union have been born five children: Cecelia, Reuben, Leonora, Gertrude and Eloise.

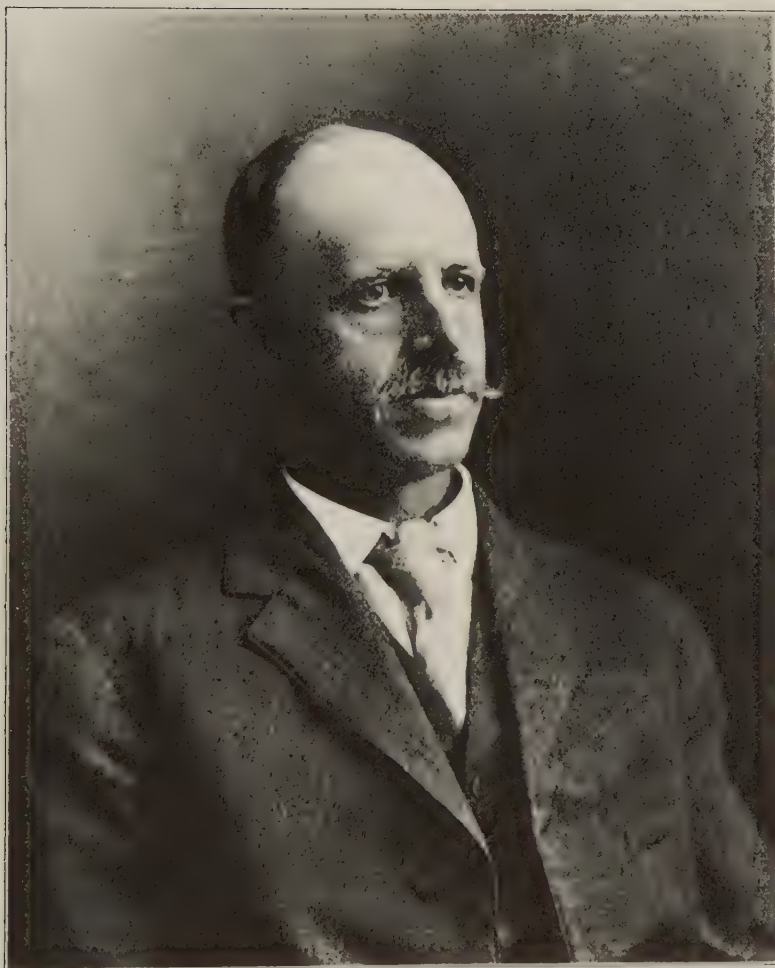
A democrat in political faith and a Catholic, the interests of these two worthy organizations employ the mind of Mr. Loretz for the most part while away from the farm. He takes quite an active interest in the councils of his party, being at present the Wakeman member of the democratic county central committee. His face is a familiar one at the different county and state conventions, where his advice is of weight in the formation of party policies. In church affairs he is a leader and he supports his faith liberally, being charitable to a degree. All movements looking to the public weal find a friend in Mr. Loretz, and he is universally esteemed.

DAVID C. SMITH.

David C. Smith, who well deserves the proud American title of self-made man, was born in London, England, December 26, 1856, and is a son of Jonathan C. and Hannah (Pedley) Smith. The father, who was a stonemason by occupation, came to America in the late '50s, locating in Bellevue, Ohio, where he continued to follow his trade until his death, which occurred July 6, 1882. His wife passed away March 17, 1907.

Coming to America when but two and one-half years of age, David C. Smith therefore acquired his education in this country, becoming a pupil of the schools at Norwalk and Milan. Remaining under the parental roof for a time after setting aside his text-books, he assisted his father in the cultivation of his fields until 1877, when he engaged in business on his own account as a renter, at first operating a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He was thus engaged for six years, at the end of which time he removed to his present place, which he rented for a time, and in 1895 purchased sixty-six acres. He engages in general farming, in which connection he also operates a dairy, owning about twelve cows. For sixteen years he had a milk route in Milan but later sold the route although he continues to furnish the milk. He makes a specialty of raising sheep, having on hand a fine flock of the Delaine brand, which average over eleven and a half pounds of wool per head. He conducts his various enterprises on a strictly business basis and his keen sagacity and sound judgment are the salient elements in the gratifying degree of prosperity which he now enjoys. His farm, which is free from all encumbrances, is surely proving a most satisfactory investment.

On the 9th of March, 1890, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Emma D. Brown, who was born in Monroeville, Ohio, on the 20th of April, 1868. She is the daughter of Charles and Phoebe Brown, and the father now makes his home



D. C. SMITH

with her, while the mother passed away May 10, 1878. She is a graduate of the schools of Monroeville, and is a very estimable lady, being of no little assistance to her husband in the conduct of his business affairs. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have become the parents of four children, namely: Ethel L., born May 22, 1891, who attended school for three years at Norwalk and later graduated from the school at Milan; Florence E., born September 18, 1893, who is now a pupil in school at Milan; Don C., born November 10, 1896; and Glenn R., born June 6, 1902.

Mr. Smith is a thorough believer in education and is doing all in his power to give his children the advantages of thorough training. He holds membership in the Presbyterian church and is a man of honorable, upright life, temperate in all his habits and true to the ideals of noble manhood. In politics he votes with the republican party and is public spirited in his citizenship, doing all in his power to further the material, intellectual and moral welfare and upbuilding of the community. Starting out in his business career without any especially favoring advantages, he has by energy, industry, perseverance and integrity, worked his way upward into a position of which he may well feel proud, for he is recognized as one of the prosperous, progressive and valued citizens of Norwalk township.

OTIS SYKES.

Otis Sykes, who is filling the position of postmaster of Chicago, where he is also successfully conducting a grocery store, was born in Richmond township, this county, on the 2d of May, 1847. He is a son of Daniel Sykes, a native of Vermont, and Arabella (Butler) Sykes, a native of New York. In 1836 the father came with his wife and one child to Huron county and for one year resided in Greenfield township, where he engaged in farming. He then removed to Richmond township where he settled upon a tract entirely uncultivated. He at once devoted his attention to its reclamation, made the land ready for cultivation and in course of time gathered rich crops as a reward for his labors. Upon that place he reared his family and made it his home until his death in 1882, when he was seventy-six years of age.

In the family were four children, of whom Otis Sykes is the youngest. The country schools afforded him his educational privileges and at the age of fifteen years he enlisted for service in the Civil war, joining Company C of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry in August, 1862. He took part in all the engagements with his command in the Shenandoah Valley campaign and in September, 1864, was wounded, in consequence of which he lost a limb. He was then but seventeen years of age. He sustained this wound at Winchester while fighting under Sheridan and because of his injuries received an honorable discharge in June, 1865.

Mr. Sykes at once returned to his home in Huron county. His was a most creditable military record, characterized by loyalty to duty in every relation. When he again came to the north he took up the study of medicine and dentistry and continued in the practice of the latter with success for a number of years, following the profession in Plymouth and in Findlay. He afterward engaged in

the drug business in Wabash, Indiana, and in 1876 came to Chicago Junction, where for two years he practiced dentistry. On the expiration of that period he opened a drug store which he conducted for fifteen years and then turned his attention to the grocery business, which he carries on in partnership with A. C. Byers, under the firm name of Sykes & Byers. They conduct a high class business, carrying a large and well selected line of staple and fancy groceries and their trade is constantly increasing owing to their honorable methods and straightforward dealing. Throughout the years of his residence here Mr. Sykes has also been active in connection with public affairs, being deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community. In March, 1906, he was appointed postmaster of Chicago Junction and is now most capably filling that position. He has never been a politician in the ordinary sense of the term but since age conferred upon him the right of franchise has been a warm adherent of the republican party and its principles. In fact he is actively interested in everything connected with his town and county. He has served for several years as president of the board of education and three terms as a member of the city council, during which time he has put forth earnest and effective work for the best interests of the community. He is a conservative and safe adviser and a progressive citizen.

In June, 1873, Mr. Sykes was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Miller, a native of Columbiana county, Ohio, and they have two children: Maud, who died at the age of thirteen years, and Doris M. The family are prominent socially and have many friends in every part of the county where they are known. Mr. Sykes belongs to the Masonic fraternity and also holds membership relations with the Maccabees. Leaving the army at the age of seventeen years, handicapped by the loss of his limb, he has possessed and displayed the resolute spirit which does not stop at obstacles nor is impeded by difficulties but continues on with firm determination to the objective point. He has manifested many sterling qualities in both his business and official life as well as in all the ties of home and friendship.

ADAM S. LEIS.

Adam S. Leis, who owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Sherman township, was born in this township on the 20th of January, 1860, and is a son of Peter and Margaret (Frish) Leis, both natives of Germany. The father, who was born February 16, 1829, was a son of Joseph and Agatha (Hover) Leis. He came to the United States in 1848, making the journey in about forty-two days, and came direct to Ohio, locating in Sherman township, Huron county, where he worked as a farm hand for some time. During that period he was employed by John Wright for a number of years and then began farming on his own account, purchasing eighty acres of land, which he cultivated and upon which he continued to reside until a few years ago. He is still living in Sherman township. He was married in January, 1865, to Miss Margaret Frish, who was also born in Germany and who passed away in 1896. He helped to erect the Catholic church in 1857 and has continued an officeholder

therein most of his life. He and his wife became the parents of thirteen children, namely: John, residing in Kansas; Paul, making his home in Indiana; Peter, of Putnam county, Ohio; Adam, of this review; George, deceased; Anthony, living in Sherman township; Mary, who married Anthony Ruffing, of that township; Sophia, the wife of Anthony Brown, also of that township; Helen, residing at Fremont, Ohio; Maggie, the wife of Frank Gerdeman, residing at Findlay, Ohio; Anna, who married Anthony Corps, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio; Tillie; and Rose.

Adam S. Leis acquired his education in the schools of Sherman township. His boyhood and youth were spent on the home farm, during which time he became familiar with the duties of the farm, and he remained at home until twenty-six years of age, when he went to Indiana. There he was employed as a farm hand for about six years and then purchased a farm of his own, consisting of one hundred acres in Pulaski county. He operated that place for about twelve years and then sold out, returning to Sherman township, Huron county, Ohio where he purchased the old homestead. He has since directed his efforts to its **further improvement** and development, and as the years have gone by the place has become one of the valuable and desirable farm properties of this township. He is engaging in general farming, and in his undertaking is meeting with substantial success.

On the 19th of January, 1892, Mr. Leis was united in marriage to Miss Anna Westrich, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Brown) Westrich, the wedding occurring at Norwalk, Ohio. Mrs. Leis was born in Seneca county, Ohio, and her parents, who were old settlers in this district, conducted the general store at Bismarck for a number of years. In their family were ten children, as follows: Anna, Victor, Peter, Fred, Albert, Alvin, Theodore, Carl, Tillie and Ida. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Leis has been blessed with six children, namely, Veronica, Fred, Monica, Carl, Alma and Agnes, all at home. The family are members of the Catholic church of Bismarck and are respected and esteemed in the community. Politically, Mr. Leis belongs to the democratic party and is public spirited in citizenship. Industrious and enterprising, he has gained a goodly amount of success and is today ranked among the leading farmers in Sherman township.

WILLIAM HIMBERGER.

Prominent among the energetic, farseeing and successful business men of Norwalk, is William Himberger, a lumber merchant, who in spite of disastrous fires and other obstacles which have barred his path to success, has steadily worked his way upward and today enjoys an extensive patronage in his chosen field of labor. His energy has been most intelligently directed and, wisely utilizing every opportunity that has come, he has gradually advanced to a place among the men of affluence in this city. His birth occurred in Hessen, Nassau, Germany, November 23, 1841, his parents being William P. and Wilhelmina (Horn) Himberger, both of whom were natives of the same place. The family came to the United States in 1855. Crossing the Atlantic to the new world, they made

their way to Bloomingville, Erie county, Ohio, where the mother had a brother living. The same year, however, they removed to Monroeville, Huron county, where the father engaged in general farming. In 1863 he was accidentally killed, being then forty-nine years of age.

William Himberger was a lad of about thirteen years when he sailed across the broad Atlantic with his parents and came with them to Ohio. He remained under the parental roof until September, 1861, when he responded to the country's call for aid to crush out the rebellion in the south, enlisting as a member of the Third Ohio Cavalry. He afterward enlisted in the Thirty-fourth Kentucky Infantry and did active service in Alabama, Mississippi, Virginia and West Virginia until the close of the war. He took part in a number of hotly contested battles and in the long, hard marches of wearisome campaigns and was mustered out on the 24th of June 1865, at Knoxville, Tennessee. He had witnessed the close of the war when Victory perched upon the Union banners and with a creditable military record he returned to his home in Huron county.

Here Mr. Himberger started in business life as a common laborer but has worked steadily upward to his present position as one of the representative and prosperous merchants of the city. In 1866 he came to Norwalk and in 1867 became employed in a lumberyard, learning the trade, in the place which he now owns, with David D. Moorehouse. He afterward spent five years as an employe of the lumber firm of Brown & Goodnow and when those gentlemen dissolved partnership the firm became Lawrence & Brown and afterward Lawrence & Gilson. Mr. Himberger remained with the business throughout all its changes in partnership until 1880 when he felt that his previous extended experience and careful expenditure justified him in engaging in business on his own account. He then became a partner in the firm of Smith, Himberger & Company for the conduct of a general lumber business which was carried on under that name until 1886 when the firm became Smith & Himberger. In April, 1901, Mr. Himberger purchased his partner's interest and continued the business alone until March, 1907, when the Himberger Lumber Company was organized. It is exclusively a family concern and Mr. Himberger is the president of the Company. Between 1880 and 1901 the firm had three disastrous fires, one occurring on the 8th of March, 1881, another on the 30th of October, 1891, and the third on the 2d of August, 1901. Not disheartened by these disasters Mr. Himberger resolutely set to work to retrieve his losses and his honorable business methods secured him a liberal patronage which has brought him substantial success as the years have passed. The company today owns one of the largest lumberyards in this part of the state and its trade is extensive and profitable.

In February, 1866, Mr. Himberger was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hundsorf, a native of Germany and a daughter of John Hundsorf, an old resident of Huron county who came from the fatherland in 1853. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Himberger were born four daughters: Minnie, now the wife of Charles Prechtel, who is manager of the Himberger Lumber Company; Katherine, now Mrs. Smith; and Zedona Elizabeth and Louise Frederica, twins. The wife and mother passed away on the 30th of January, 1904, when fifty-eight years of age and her death was deeply regretted by many friends who had come to know and esteem her for her many sterling traits of character.

In his political views Mr. Himberger is a stalwart democrat with firm belief in the principles of the party but has never been an office seeker. He has, however, served as a member of the council from 1890 to 1892 and from 1905 to 1907, was a member of the board of public works. He is never remiss in the duties of citizenship nor does he neglect to give hearty aid to the measures and movements for the public good. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and to the Knights of the Maccabees and maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Wooster and Bolt Post, G. A. R. He is a devoted member of the Episcopal church, in which he has served as warden for many years. He is a splendid specimen of the self-made man who owes his success entirely to his well directed efforts, his persistency of purpose and his undaunted energy. He is public-spirited, unassuming in manner and thoroughly reliable. Throughout his entire life he has always been the same genial, courteous gentleman, whose ways are those of refinement and whose word no man can question.

ORIN P. REYNOLDS.

Orin P. Reynolds, a representative of the farming interests of Hartland township, was born in that township, on the 3d of December, 1854, his parents being Theodore M. and Malissa (Sholes) Reynolds, who were natives of Connecticut and New York respectively. The father, who came to this county with his parents in 1835, was an agriculturist by occupation and for many years was numbered among the prominent and respected residents of Hartland township. His upright and honorable life won him the esteem and friendship of all with whom he was associated and his demise, which occurred on the 12th of July, 1903, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. He took an active part in public affairs and for many years capably served in the position of township trustee. His wife, who came to this state in early womanhood, is also now deceased, having passed away on the 14th of June, 1905. Unto this worthy couple were born three sons: Dayton, Orin P. and Bion, all of whom are still living.

Orin P. Reynolds was reared to manhood on his father's farm and obtained his education in the district schools of his native township. When not busy with his text-books he assisted his father in the work of the old home farm and continued to reside thereon until twenty-eight years of age, when he was married. Subsequently he removed to Lucas county, Ohio, where he was engaged in general agricultural pursuits for two years, on the expiration of which period he returned to Hartland township and cultivated his father's farm for a year. In 1886 he became identified with mercantile interests at Hartland Center, successfully conducting a general store of that character for about sixteen years. At the end of that time he once more took up the work of the fields and now owns the old home farm in Hartland township, in the cultivation of which he is meeting with a most gratifying and well merited degree of prosperity. Whatever he has undertaken he has carried forward to successful completion and has gained

enviable recognition among the substantial, progressive and representative citizens of the community.

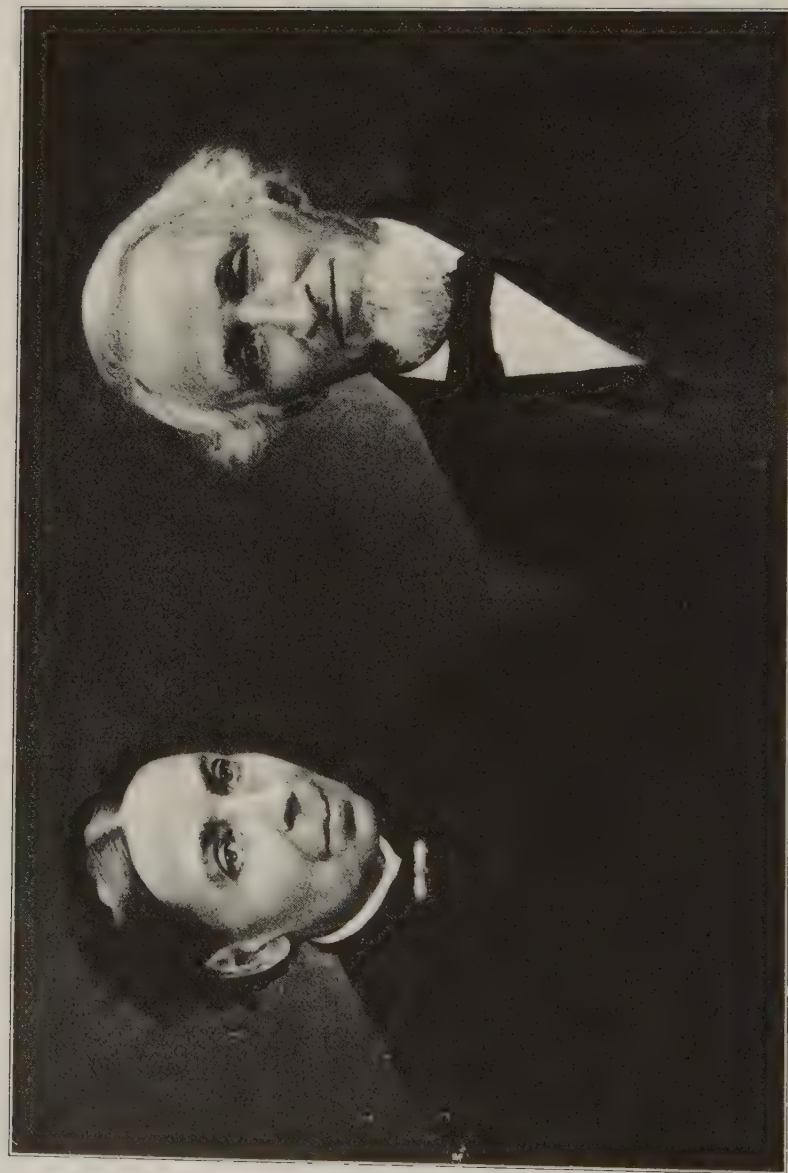
On the 7th of March, 1882, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Asenath Sisson, a daughter of Jabez and Lydia (Payne) Sisson, of New York. Mrs. Reynolds made her way to Ohio in early womanhood, and by her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Carl, Glen and Fern, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Reynolds is a staunch republican in his political views and an active worker in the local ranks of his party. He has served in the office of township treasurer for twenty-two years, was a member of the board of education for many years and has also done effective service in the position of road supervisor. For a number of years he has been a member of the republican county committee and he is a frequent delegate to county, district and state conventions. He always gives his influence and aid to progressive public measures and stands as a stalwart defender of justice, truth and right in public as well as private relations. In the community where practically his entire life has been spent, he is regarded as a leading and valued citizen, being held in high esteem for his manly bearing and his integrity of character.

JOHN L. PRATT.

John L. Pratt, living in Bronson township, is engaged in farming, his possession now aggregating three hundred and seventy-five acres in Huron county. He is a native son of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred September 7, 1852. His parents were DeMorris and Mary (Roberts) Pratt. The father was a native of Washington county, New York, born on Christmas day of 1808, while the mother was born in Massachusetts, September 6, 1814. DeMorris Pratt accompanied his father-in-law, Abijah Roberts, to Fitchville, Ohio, in 1836, where each purchased a farm. Mr. Pratt was a local preacher of the Methodist denomination but never accepted a salary for his services. He performed many marriage ceremonies in his district and the money he received for his services in this connection he always presented to the bride. He served two terms in the Ohio state legislature and in many ways took an active and prominent part in the development and improvement of the community in which he made his home. His family numbered five sons and two daughters, namely: A. R. and Jesse, now deceased; and one daughter who died in infancy; Phillip; J. F.; Mrs. Frances Pond; and John L. of this review.

The last named acquired his early education in the district schools of Fitchville township and later attended the schools of Oberlin and Berea, afterward pursuing a business course in a college at Poughkeepsie, New York. When starting out to make his own way in the world, Mr. Pratt engaged in farming and in connection with E. L. Tucker conducted a butter and cheese factory for twenty years. During this time they did a very extensive business, controlling the largest enterprise of its kind in this section at that time. However, Mr. Pratt now devotes his entire time to farming and as the years have passed and he has pros-



MR. AND MRS. DeMORRIS PRATT



MR. AND MRS. LEWIS MANAHAN

pered in his undertakings, he has added to his holdings until his possessions now aggregate three hundred and seventy-five acres, all valuable and well improved land. A valuable work which Mr. Pratt assisted in performing in this section was the organization of the Olena Telephone Company, of which he is now the president. This is one of the finest systems to be found anywhere, connecting with the Bell Company and the local company.

Mr. Pratt was married November 4, 1873, the lady of his choice being Miss Delia Manahan, who was born in Ohio, July 23, 1852. Her father, Lewis Manahan, at one time owned the farm on which Mr. Pratt now lives, and this has been the home of Mrs. Pratt since she was four years of age. Mr. Manahan followed farming throughout his entire life and during the time of the Civil war was an extensive buyer of horses, which he sold to the army, and he also dealt heavily in all kinds of stock. His death occurred in 1897, when he was seventy-nine years of age, his birth having occurred in 1818, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Chapin, was born in 1828 and departed this life in 1908, when in her eightieth year.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Pratt has been blessed with two sons. The elder, DeMorris C. Pratt, who was born January 11, 1875, was educated in the village school and is now engaged in farming. He is a republican in politics and a Presbyterian in religious faith, while his fraternal relations are with the Maccabees. He was married April 7, 1898, to Miss Lela Burrows, a daughter of W. L. and Ella Burrows, and their home has been blessed with a little daughter, Margaret B. Pratt, who was born August 27, 1904. The younger son, Worthing C. Pratt, was born September 10, 1877, and is cashier of the Huron county bank.

Prominent in public affairs as an adherent of the republican party, Mr. Pratt has filled the office of township treasurer sixteen years and also served as justice of the peace but refused to accept the latter office for another term. He is a Methodist in religious faith and also belongs to the Maccabees Tent. Quick to discern opportunities for advancement in a business sense, Mr. Pratt has worked his way to the front until today he stands as one of the largest and wealthiest landowners in Huron county. However, his success has been honorably won, and his record also in public life has been one of unremitting and tireless energy and there is no blot or stain of dishonor upon his name. He represents one of the oldest and most prominent families of this part of the state and all who know him have for him high regard.

ELMER E. TOWNSEND.

Elmer E. Townsend, president of the New London National Bank and closely identified with financial interests of the county since 1898, was born in Fitchville, Ohio, September 22, 1852. His father, John T. Townsend, was born in New London township, July 22, 1824, and was the second of the eight children of Hosea Townsend, who was born in Greenbush, New York, in 1794. His father, William Townsend, was a native of Massachusetts and a millwright by trade. At the time of the birth of his son, Hosea Townsend, he was temporarily em-

ployed at his trade in Greenbush. His wife bore the maiden name of Rhoda Skinner. Their son, Hosea Townsend, was reared and educated in Massachusetts where he resided until 1815, when he came to Huron county on a tour of inspection. After a brief period he returned to Massachusetts, but that he was pleased with his western trip was indicated in the fact that in the following year he again came to Ohio and settled on lot 23 of the third section in New London township. Only a few years before had Ohio been admitted to statehood and many portions of the state were still unclaimed and unsettled by the white race. In fact Ohio was regarded as on the very border of civilization and Mr. Townsend belonged to that class of sturdy and representative American men who extended the frontier by introducing all of the evidences of modern civilization into his region. In the development of a farm here he built a log house and cleared his land which in the course of time was made to bring forth rich harvests. As he prospered in his undertakings he added to his holdings and at length became a very successful and influential citizen of his part of the state. In 1820 he married Sophia Case, whose family came from New York and settled in New London township, her father being Tracy Case, well known in early pioneer times. Mrs. Townsend was well educated and taught the first school in New London township. She reared a family of eight children who were a credit to her superior training. It is worthy of note that she never allowed a book to pass into the hands of her children without first reading it herself that she might know whether its contents were detrimental or injurious to the moral training. The only members of the family now living are H. W. Townsend and Mrs. A. F. Johnson. The father, Hosea Townsend, continued to engage in farming until 1874, when he removed to New London and made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Johnson, until his death, in 1884. He had survived his wife for an entire decade. He was a man of strong, sterling characteristics and enjoyed the esteem and trust of all who knew him. In antebellum days he was a strong opponent of the system of slavery and when the republican party was formed to prevent its further extension he joined its ranks and as one of its representatives was called to a number of local offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. John Townsend, the father of Elmer E. Townsend, was reared to farm life in the usual manner of boys who spend their youthful days amid agricultural environments. Good educational opportunities were afforded him for after attending the country schools he was permitted to become a student in Oberlin College. Later he engaged in teaching at Clarksville, Fitchville and New London and did good work as an educator, his instructions being clear, cogent and forceful. He married Elizabeth Palmer, a native of Clarksfield township and a daughter of Linus Palmer who located in that township in pioneer days, as did her mother, who bore the maiden name of Jemima Rowland. After his marriage John Townsend abandoned teaching and concentrated his energies upon farming pursuits in Fitchville township, carefully operating his fields for many years. In 1880 he was elected county commissioner and served for two terms, while for the long period of thirty years he was justice of the peace, his retention in the office plainly indicating that his opinions were strictly fair and impartial, being based upon the law and equity in the case. In 1898 he removed to New London, where he died, March

5, 1907. His widow still survives and now makes her home with her son, Elmer, their only child. In his political views John Townsend was a stalwart republican but ever placed the public good before partisanship, and at all times sought the welfare and progress of the community, which numbered him among its most honored and representative citizens.

Following the acquirement of his education in Oberlin College, Elmer E. Townsend took up the profession of teaching and for a time was identified with the high school at Fitchville. In 1873 he located on the farm, formerly the property of his grandfather and for twenty-five years was closely, actively, and successfully associated with the work of tilling the soil. It was not until 1898 that he put aside the plow and removed to New London, where he has since been identified with banking interests. The First National Bank was established in 1872 and in 1892 was reorganized as the New London National Bank, from which time Mr. Townsend served as a director. On the death of his uncle, Ira Townsend, he was elected to the presidency and has since continued at the head of the institution, bending his energies to executive control and administrative direction. He is thoroughly conversant with the banking business in all of its phases and has made the New London National one of the safe, conservative and reliable moneyed institutions of the county. While he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking he has nevertheless been elected and served as mayor of New London, was trustee of the township for several terms and at the present writing, 1909, is corporation treasurer. He votes with the republican party, for his mature judgment sanctions its principles as most conducive to good government.

In 1873 Mr. Townsend was married to Miss Abbie Curtis, a native of Fitchville, who died in 1903. He has since wedded Miss Ida Robertson, a native of Pennsylvania and a talented lady who for several years taught in the New London public schools. Mr. Townsend is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and is appreciative of the social amenities of life. He is never neglectful of any of the obligations of citizenship or of friendship, while his integrity in business has made him an unassailable reputation.

FRANK B. SEYMOUR.

Frank B. Seymour, a farmer of Lyme township and the owner of sixty-five acres of land, that lies mostly in Erie county, was born on this farm, October 24, 1856, the son of George W. and Charlotte E. (Hotchkin) Seymour. The father was born in Gibson, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, August 15, 1824, and died on this farm, January 18, 1892, while the mother was born at Waterville, New York, May 15, 1827, and is still living at Bellevue, Ohio. George W. Seymour came to North Monroeville, Ohio, with his father, John Seymour, and his mother, Sarah (Thatcher) Seymour, in 1825. Her father, Moses Thatcher, who came with them, is buried at North Monroeville. For about ten years the family lived at North Monroeville, in which vicinity Mr. Seymour owned about four hundred acres of land. Later they removed to the farm

in Lyme township, Huron county, which the grandfather purchased from a Mr. Russell, and improved greatly during his lifetime. John Seymour was a prominent man in this locality in early days when stage coaches were still running and he was located at the intersection of the stage routes between Cleveland, Maumee, Sandusky and Columbus. Here he had a general store and distributed the mail, in his capacity of postmaster, that the great wagons brought. He was deeply interested in the welfare of the little community he served and for a period of thirty years he fulfilled the duties of township clerk. He was accounted one of the pillars of the Strong's Ridge church, of which he had always been a member and of which he was a deacon at the time of his death. His eventful and useful life came to an end in his ninetieth year. George W. Seymour succeeded his father as deacon of the church and during the whole of his life was identified with farming interests. On the 29th of April, 1852, his marriage to Miss Charlotte E. Hotchkin was celebrated at Watertown, New York, and their union was blessed with three children: Anna K., who was born June 1, 1854, and married Albert Young, now deceased; Frank B., our subject; and William, who was born August 16, 1866, but lived only till the following December.

Frank B. Seymour lived on his present farm, receiving his preparation for life at home, under the direction of his parents and at the district schools, which he attended until he was thirteen and was then a student in the Bellevue high school for four years. His education completed, he engaged in the hardware business, working in Chicago, Illinois, and Cleveland, Ohio. This connection with the world of affairs he gave up when he received word of his father's illness and returned home to take charge of the farm. To this he has since devoted his attention and upon the old homestead he has resided.

On the 23d of June, 1897, Mr. Seymour married Miss Clara Barnard, who was born December 19, 1867, in Lyme township, and is the daughter of Alfred and Ruth (Bemiss) Barnard, long residents of Huron county. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour's union has been blessed with four children: George B., born June 28, 1898; Ruth H., born October 3, 1900; Ethelwyn, born on the 18th of January, 1904; and Alberta Y., born March 25, 1906.

Mr. Seymour is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and has passed all the chairs. In the work of the Lyme Congregational church he is also prominent and has been its treasurer for a number of years.

CARL C. THOMPSON.

Carl C. Thompson is now capably and faithfully discharging the duties devolving upon him in the position of county recorder of Huron county. He was born in Fitchville township, this county, on the 23d of September, 1868, his parents being John C. and T. W. (Welsh) Thompson, the former a native of Noble county and the latter of Belmont county, this state. They established their home in Huron county, about the year 1859. The father was a Congregational minister and their residence lacked permanency on that account. He

was a republican in his political views and represented Huron county in the state legislature for two terms during the '60s. A progressive and loyal citizen, he did not believe that his holy calling barred him from participation in affairs of public moment and his aid and cooperation could always be counted upon to further any movement instituted to promote the general welfare. When he passed away in August, 1891, the county mourned the loss of one of its most respected, influential and worthy residents. His wife, surviving him for more than a decade, was called to her final rest in May, 1902. Their remains were interred in the cemetery at Plymouth, Huron county. They reared a family of five children, three sons and two daughters, namely: Isyphene; Hershel, who is deceased; Sumner; one who died in infancy; and Carl C., of this review.

The last named supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the public schools, by a course at Oberlin College, while later he attended the Valparaiso Business College at Valparaiso, Indiana. After completing his own education he taught school in Huron county for a period of eight years, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. During some of these years he only taught in the winter terms and in the summer seasons was employed by Adriance, Platt & Company, implement manufacturers of Poughkeepsie, New York. The confidence and trust reposed in him by his employers is indicated by the fact that he was selected as their foreign representative during the seasons of 1893, 1895 and 1896, introducing the harvesting machinery manufactured by the concern into Germany, Austria, Hungary, Roumania and Bulgaria. He was married when about twenty-six years of age and established his home in Clarksfield. He has been in the employ of Adriance, Platt & Company at different intervals, his connection with the concern covering twelve seasons altogether. In 1903 he established a warehouse at West Clarksfield on the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad and began dealing in hay, grain and coal, successfully conducting this enterprise until the summer of 1909. Throughout his business life he had made it his aim to do thoroughly whatever he has undertaken and he long since demonstrated his reliability as well as his enterprise.

In November, 1894, Mr. Thompson was joined in wedlock to Miss Alma Ronk, a daughter of Seneca and Zelma (Cooley) Ronk, of Clarksfield township. Their union has been blessed with three children, as follows: Marguerite, Harold and Jay.

Mr. Thompson gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy and has always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He has served as assessor of Clarksfield township for three terms and has also acted as school director for some years, being a stanch friend of the cause of education. In 1908 the Huron county democratic convention nominated him as their candidate for the position of county recorder. The fact that he had made no effort to secure the nomination and was not even present at the convention speaks in unmistakable terms of his personal popularity and well known ability. He was elected the following November and entered upon the duties of the office on the second Monday of September, 1909. A week prior to that time he became a resident of Norwalk. He is a valued member of Clarksfield Tent, K. O. T. M., and he and his family belong to the Congregational church,

in the work of which they are actively interested. No breath of suspicion has ever assailed his good name and on the contrary he stands as a splendid type of the honorable, reliable, successful man, the public-spirited citizen and the trustworthy friend.

DAVID DE FOREST BENEDICT.

David De Forest Benedict, now deceased, who for many years was actively and successfully identified with the mercantile interests of Norwalk as proprietor of a drug store, was long numbered among Huron county's most respected and honored citizens. His birth occurred in Norwalk on the 1st of August, 1833. His paternal grandparents were Platt and Sally (De Forest) Benedict and the former, who was one of the first settlers in Huron county, assisted in founding the town of Norwalk. The maternal grandparents, Henry and Harriet (Talcott) Buckingham, were natives of Connecticut and the latter was a direct descendant of Governor Bradford, of Massachusetts. They celebrated their marriage in 1803. Henry Buckingham, whose birth occurred in 1779, likewise became one of the earliest settlers of Huron county and served as county treasurer for many years. He was recognized as a most prominent and influential citizen and his death, which occurred in 1845, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His son, George Talcott Buckingham, who was the organizer and editor of the Norwalk Reflector, was called to his final rest in 1847. In early manhood, he had wedded Miss Lovina Lindsey, of Monroeville, Ohio. Jonas Boughton Benedict and Fanny (Buckingham) Benedict, the parents of our subject, reared a family of four children, namely: Platt; David D., of this review; Mary Starr; and Mrs. Fanny Severance.

David D. Benedict was reared on the old homestead place where his birth occurred and which continued to remain his place of residence throughout his entire life. The family home still stands on the same site. After completing his literary education in Kenyon College, he took up the study of medicine as a student in the Cleveland Medical College, being graduated from that institution in 1859. His patriotic spirit being aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, he offered his services in its defense in 1862, becoming a member of the Seventeenth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry as a contract surgeon, being later commissioned a regular surgeon. He was the youngest officer of that rank in the regiment and continued in active service until honorably discharged on the 16th of July, 1865. He underwent many of the hardships and dangers incident to warfare and following his capture by the Confederates at the battle of Chickamauga, he was confined in Libby prison for about forty days. After the close of hostilities, he returned to Norwalk and became an active factor in its mercantile life, purchasing a drug store, which he conducted until within a few years of his demise. He was very successful in this undertaking, becoming widely recognized as a most substantial, enterprising and progressive citizen of his community. In addition to his other interests, he likewise served as one of the directors of the First National Bank and was a trustee of the Woodlawn cemetery, a member of the Loyal Legion, Mason, Delta Kappa Epsilon.



D. D. BENEDICT

On the 14th of October, 1856, Mr. Benedict was united in marriage to Miss Harriet M. Deaver, whose birth occurred in Watertown, New York, on the 4th of May, 1835, her parents being James and Harriet Deaver. By this union, there were born the following children: Mary Deaver, the eldest, to whom we are indebted for the material in this sketch, is a well known and highly esteemed resident of Norwalk. Harriet M. gave her hand in marriage to William B. Benham, an attorney by profession, who is now compelled to live practically retired, because of failing health. Agnes C. is the wife of Frank D. Wickham. Fanny B., the next in order of birth, was joined in wedlock to A. J. Hottel. Frederick Platt Benedict, the fifth in order of birth and the last of the line of the Benedicts, died May 11, 1885. Ellen E. is the wife of Louis W. Wickham. Susan R., who is a graduate of Smith College at Northampton, Massachusetts, and also pursued a course in Columbia College, is now a teacher in the former institution. She is very proficient in mathematics and has won the degree of M. A. The mother of these children was called to her final rest on the 25th of April, 1909, eight years after the death of her husband.

In his political views, Mr. Benedict was a staunch republican and served as a member of the school board for many years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church, in which he was acting as senior warden at the time of his demise, which occurred on the 5th of January, 1901. He was a most public-spirited and loyal citizen, whose aid and influence were always given on the side of progress, improvement and upbuilding. A man of genial, kindly nature, he gained the friendship and regard of all with whom he was associated and well deserves mention in this volume as a worthy representative of an old and prominent pioneer family.

CHARLES STACEY.

A busy life has brought to Charles Stacey success in his undertakings as a farmer in Townsend township. He was born January 22, 1843, in Earith, England, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Leeden) Stacey. In the family were nine children and when the father decided to come to America he had only money enough to pay his own passage and that of two of the children. Crossing the Atlantic he first settled at Lockport, New York, where he eagerly availed himself of any opportunity to earn an honest living. As fast as he could accumulate a sufficient sum of money he would send for the other members of his family and after all had arrived in the new world the family removed to Norwalk, Ohio, in 1854, with the exception of the eldest son who was the last of the household to come to America and who remained in New York when the others sought a home in this state. The father became a farmer of Huron county and in the tilling of the soil provided a living for those dependent upon him.

Owing to the limited financial resources of his parents Charles Stacey early engaged in whatever work there was to do upon the home place and also worked

on neighboring farms. He was educated partly in England, partly at Lockport, New York, and completed his course in the public schools of Huron county. When hostile feelings between the north and south terminated in civil war and the president issued his call for men to crush out the rebellion in the south, Charles Stacey, on the 13th of September, 1861, offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of Company D, Fifty-fifth regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. This command was attached to the army of the Potomac until after the battle of Gettysburg and participated in a number of hotly contested engagements. At Gettysburg the regiment was suffering from the firing of sharpshooters and Mr. Stacey volunteered to go beyond the lines as a sharpshooter and if possible locate the sharpshooters of the enemy. It was a perilous undertaking and he was constantly in danger from the balls of expert riflemen, who were coolly picking off their men one by one. He was finally successful, however, in silencing the shots from the sharpshooters in the Confederate line, maintaining his perilous position for four hours. In recognition of this service congress awarded him a medal of honor for conspicuous heroism displayed during the battle. Well may he prize this award highly. He never faltered in the performance of any duty, no matter how hazardous but with unflinching loyalty stood by his guns and fortunately escaped all injury during his strenuous service. Every one of his bunk-mates with the exception of one was either killed or wounded in the engagement. After the battle of Gettysburg the fifty-fifth Ohio Regiment was transferred to the army of the Cumberland. On the night of July 2, 1863, following the second day of the battle of Gettysburg, Mr. Stacey was taken prisoner with a detail of seven men of Company D, who had been sent to charge upon a barn from which some of the Confederate sharpshooters were firing. While executing this command the Union detail was surrounded and the men were taken prisoners. They were sent to Richmond, Virginia, and spent two days in Libby prison, after which they were transferred to Belle Isle. Their incarceration continued for eighty-nine days after which they were paroled and sent to Annapolis, while subsequently they were sent to Camp Chase at Columbus to await exchange. Mr. Stacey rejoined his regiment on the 26th of June, 1864, when the troops were located at Kenesaw Mountain. The Fifty-fifth participated in a battle there and he was in the thickest of the fight. He was also with his regiment in the Atlanta campaign and was at the front until April 12, 1866, making an actual service of four years, one month and seven days. On various occasions he received special mention for heroism and for conspicuous service and his record was one of value to the country and constitutes a chapter in his life history of which he has every reason to be proud. He has always maintained his interest in military affairs and is a member of Townsend Post No. 414, G. A. R., and has been post commander for a number of years. He has also served as adjutant of the post and that he is popular with his comrades is shown in the fact that he has been made a delegate to the state and national encampments and has served as aid on the staff of several national commanders. He became a charter member of M. F. Wooster Post, No. 34, G. A. R., of Norwalk, the first one organized in the county, but later he transferred his membership to Townsend Post. The first regimental battle-flags of the Fifty-fifth Ohio, presented by the ladies of Norwalk, are in possession of Mr. Stacey

and he gives them scrupulous care. His son, Charles L., was a soldier of the Spanish-American war, serving creditably in Company G, of the Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

On leaving the army Mr. Stacey again came to Townsend township and on the 20th of October, 1866, he was married to Miss Lydia E. Sherman, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Sherman, and a representative of a family prominent and prosperous in the county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stacey have been born seven children: George E.; Rose E., now the wife of R. D. Sly, of Clarksfield; John W., of Wellington; Sarah L., now the wife of W. E. Cronk; Charles L., who has carried the rural mail out of Norwalk on route No. 1 ever since its establishment ten years ago; Grace E., now Mrs. Thom A. Speck, of Norwalk; and James C., also of Norwalk. All the members of the family are well located and are prosperous in business. There are twenty grand-children in the family and the record is remarkable as no death has ever occurred among children or grand-children.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Stacey has followed farming and has been very successful as the result of his close application and energy. He keeps in touch with modern methods of farming and everything about his place, presenting a neat appearance, is indicative of the careful supervision and progressive spirit of the owner. In his political views Mr. Stacey is a republican and has been very active in the affairs of the township and county. In 1906 he was elected county infirmary director and has served Townsend township for three years in the office of trustee, while for a number of years he has been justice of the peace. He has likewise been on the township board of education for a number of years. He belongs to the Congressional Medal of Honor Legion, of Ohio, of which he is now commander. A stanch temperance advocate, he has been an active worker in his opposition to the use of intoxicants and in fact has ever been active in movements and measures to advance good morals and promote the public welfare. The poor and needy find in him a friend who makes generous contributions for their assistance. He does not hesitate to extend a helping hand where it is needed and in all of his life has manifested sterling traits of honorable, upright manhood. He has been especially interested in the improvement of public highways, in the erection of modern public buildings, and in the adoption of a progressive school system, and believes that taxation with a judicious expenditure of the public money is always justified. In short there is nothing narrow nor contracted about his nature. He looks at life from a broader standpoint than that of self and realizes the obligations of man to his fellowmen as a factor in human society.

T. P. KELLOGG.

T. P. Kellogg, one of the representative members of the Huron county bar, who is now filling the office of city auditor, was born in Norwalk, October 2, 1874. His father, T. H. Kellogg, was a native of Tompkins county, New York. Arriving in Huron county, Ohio, in early life he attended the old Norwalk

Academy and after studying law in preparation for practice before courts he opened an office in Fairfield, this state, and entered upon the active work of the courts. In 1869 he removed to Norwalk where he continued in practice until 1903, figuring for many years as one of the prominent attorneys of the Huron county bar. In the year mentioned he went to Kansas City, where he engaged in journalistic work and later located in Pasadena, California, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1908 when he had reached the ripe old age of seventy-six years. He was very prominent in republican politics, his opinions carrying weight in the councils of the party. He possessed brilliant powers of oratory, being a logical, entertaining speaker, master of the art of rhetoric and ever forceful in the presentation of his thought. In the practice of law he was analytical, recognizing quickly the component elements of his case and so arranging them as to bring their combined weight upon the point which he desired to prove. He ranked for a long period as a leading attorney of the Huron county bar, served as city attorney, was also elected prosecuting attorney of the county and filled the office of justice of the peace and member of the city council. His labors in behalf of public progress were far-reaching and beneficial, for while he reached up to high ideals he ever utilized the practical methods at hand. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Frances Esther Penfield, was a native of Fairfield, Ohio, and a daughter of Samuel Penfield, one of the first settlers of that locality, removing westward from Fairfield, Connecticut. Mrs. Kellogg also died in Pasadena, California, being called to her final rest in 1908 when seventy-four years of age. By her marriage she had become the mother of seven children, five sons and two daughters: Charles R., Clara E., Frederick W., Robert J., Mary F. and Edward S.

The other member of the family is T. P. Kellogg of this review, who is indebted to the public-school system of his native city for the educational privileges which he enjoyed and which fitted him for life's practical and responsible duties. It was his intention to enter the journalistic field but owing to an accident he abandoned that idea. For several years he engaged in teaching school and was then called to public office, being elected city clerk in 1899. To that position he was reelected in 1901, so that his incumbency covered four years. In 1903 he was chosen by popular suffrage to the office of city auditor and was reelected in 1907 so that he is filling the position at the present time. His political endorsement is given to the republican party which finds in him a stalwart champion. While in office he gave his leisure time to the study of law and was admitted to the bar in 1902.

It was in 1895 that Mr. Kellogg was united in marriage to Miss Carlottie M. Pond, a daughter of A. A. and M. M. Pond, both old residents of Huron county. Two children graced this union, Marjorie F. and Raymond P. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg have many warm friends in Norwalk, having been lifelong residents of the county and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them. Mr. Kellogg is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and other fraternal organizations. He has long been recognized as a leader in the ranks of the republican party and for three years has been president of the Norwalk McKinley Club. He has also served three years as vice president of the same

club. He is an efficient officer and a popular man whose geniality, deference for the opinions of others and kindly spirit have gained him a firm hold on the affection and regard of those with whom he has come in contact.

THOMAS LAWRENCE.

Thomas Lawrence, who has long been numbered among the most successful and energetic agriculturists of Bronson township, was born on the farm which he now owns and operates, his natal day being October 26, 1858. His parents, Alonzo and Lois (Morse) Lawrence, were both born in the year 1830. Captain Samuel Lawrence, the paternal great-grandfather of our subject, whose birth occurred in 1760, served throughout the entire period of the Revolutionary war as a commissioned officer. Thomas Lawrence, the paternal grandfather, became one of the pioneer residents of Huron county, Ohio, settling in Bronson township in 1833. He taught school during the early days of the county's development, his labors proving no unimportant element in the progress of the community along intellectual lines. He was a native of South Salem, New York, his birth having there occurred in 1794. On the 27th of November, 1823, he wedded Miss Clemence Reynolds and subsequent to her demise was again married, on the 24th of May, 1831, his second union being with Miss Ada Bishop. For his third wife he chose Miss Drusilla Stone, the marriage ceremony taking place in 1844. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Lawrence of this review were Daniel and Lucy (Cleveland) Morse, the latter being a relative of Grover Cleveland. The parents of Mr. Lawrence are both deceased, the father passing away in 1904, while the mother was called to her final rest on the 10th of March, 1903. Unto this worthy couple were born four children, namely: Edwin, Thomas, Mary and Daniel.

Thomas Lawrence has spent his entire life on the farm where his birth occurred and early gained practical knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil through the assistance which he rendered his father in the work of the fields. The old homestead farm, comprising one hundred and fifty-four acres of rich and productive land in Bronson township, is now in his possession and in its cultivation he has gained a most gratifying measure of prosperity, annually harvesting good crops, for which he finds a ready sale on the market.

On the 25th of February, 1883, Mr. Lawrence was united in marriage to Miss Ella Farrar, who was born on the 26th of September, 1863, her parents being Allen and Hannah (Goodlin) Farrar, natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Farrar reared a family of three children: Stella, Alonzo and Ella. Unto Mr. Lawrence and his wife have been born three children, as follows: Blanche, whose birth occurred October 8, 1886, and who is now the wife of Edwin McPherson; Bertha, who was born July 1, 1894; and Leland, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 12th of January, 1898.

Mr. Lawrence has always given stalwart support to the men and measures of the republican party and in the capacity of school director has done effective service for the cause of education. He was also at one time the capable incumbent

in the position of postmaster at Olena. Both he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church and are highly esteemed throughout this locality as people of genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character, having gained the confidence and regard of all with whom they have come in contact. As a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family Mr. Lawrence is well entitled to mention in this volume and it is with pleasure that we present the record of his life to our readers.

HENRY T. PECK.

The name of Henry T. Peck will be recognized by intelligent readers of this volume as worthy of mention among the better class of agriculturists in the county. He resides on the old Peck homestead in Wakeman township. Mr. Peck was born February 22, 1858, his parents being Henry T. and Abigail (Haskins) Peck, the father coming from Connecticut, and the mother from Massachusetts. They were early settlers in the virgin forest of Huron county, and met and conquered all the dragons of the pioneer times. They were thrifty, and, using their earnings for investment, finally became large land owners in the county, having some six hundred acres. In their family were thirteen children, who grew to maturity, as follows: Warren, Atlanta, Byron, Julia, Adelbert, Royal, Lavinia, Edward, Wilmer, Virgil, Everett, Henry T. and Alice. Of these four are deceased: Adelbert, Edward, Lavinia and William. Edward was killed at the battle of Shiloh. It is remembered of the father of this family that he was of sturdy character, firm in his convictions of the right as he saw them and brave to maintain them. His home was one of the stations on the underground railroad, and many a black face shone with gratitude for the helping hand extended during those perilous times. He was one of the founders of the Episcopal church in Wakeman and in many other ways stamped his impress upon the history of his township. He died in 1883, aged seventy-two years, his wife surviving until August, 1903, reaching the ripe age of ninety-one years.

Henry T. Peck was reared to farm life and secured a fair education in the schools of the home community and at Wakeman high school. At the age of twenty-one, he traveled extensively through the west for three years, but finally returned and took up the life of a farmer in his home district. After his marriage, he bought the old homestead, which he has since cultivated, adding many new features and improvements. He "runs to sheep," for the most part, though he also raises many fine horses. The homestead comprises one hundred and ten acres, all of which is kept under cultivation. Mr. Peck also owns some town property as an investment.

His marriage certificate bears date of October 14, 1878, the other contracting party having been Miss Mary Diggins, a daughter of Martin and Sarah Diggins. The birth of three children blessed this union: Clayton H., Marion and Gertrude.

Henry T. Peck is known as a man of fine public spirit, entering into various projects for the betterment of society and government with enthusiastic zeal. He has served several terms as township trustee, has been a member at different



MR. AND MRS. HENRY T. PECK

times of the school board. He is an active republican and for years and is at present a member of the township board of elections. He has attended the different conventions of his party as a delegate many times, when the influence of his personality has been wielded for sane and safe measures. He and his family affiliate with the Congregational church and are active in its work and support liberally its enterprises. Take him all in all, no truer citizen can be found in Huron county.

ROBERT MARCH.

Robert March, who throughout his active business career has been successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits, is the owner of an excellent farm of thirty-six acres in Peru township. His birth occurred in Germany on the 4th of November, 1842, his parents being Joseph and Anna (Phillips) March. In 1852 they set sail for the United States and after a voyage of forty-two days reached New York city, where they remained for about a year. Subsequently the family home was established in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, where the sons purchased a tract of land of eight acres, on which stood a log house. Here the parents spent their remaining days, the father passing away in 1866 when fifty-eight years of age, while the mother's demise occurred in 1879, when she had attained the age of sixty-five years. Their children were twelve in number, as follows: Ralph, who is now deceased; Pauline, the deceased wife of Herman Longyear; Burkhart, who participated in the Civil war as a member of Company G, Twenty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and died at the Soldiers' home at Sandusky; Gertrude, the widow of Nicholas Hophefecker; Thaddeus, a resident of Norwalk, Ohio; Henrietta, who is the wife of David Bauman and makes her home in Huron county; Robert, of this review; Tracy, living in Peru township, who wedded Julius Link; John, who lives at Fostoria, Ohio; Stella, the wife of Andrew Itesman and two who died in infancy.

Robert March obtained his education in the district schools and since the age of twelve years has made his home continuously in Peru township. In February, 1864, he enlisted as a soldier of the Union army, becoming a member of Company A, One Hundred and Ninety-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The regiment went to Camp Chase and was then sent to Virginia and participated in a number of skirmishes. Mr. March was mustered out on the 2d of September, 1865, and returned home with a most creditable military record, having never faltered in the performance of any task assigned him. The farm of thirty-six acres which he now owns and operates has been his place of residence for about fifty-four years and in the conduct of his agricultural interests he has won a well deserved and creditable degree of success. He has erected a commodious and attractive residence, as well as substantial barn and other outbuildings and the air of neatness and thrift which pervades the place indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

On the 13th of January, 1874, Mr. March was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Hertzman, a native of Germany, who was brought to the United States

by her parents, Anthony and Lena Hertzman, when two years of age. The family located in Seneca county, Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. March have been born eight children, namely: Carolina, who has passed away; Charles, living at Norwalk, Ohio, who wedded Miss Lizzie Rustein, by whom he has three daughters; Mary, also a resident of Norwalk, who gave her hand in marriage to William Longyear, by whom she has one son, Albert; Rose, living at Norwalk, is the wife of Frank Blendsley and has three children, Walter, Clifford and Irene; Lizzie, a resident of Monroeville, is the wife of Charles Lord, by whom she has three children, Harold, Rose and Edna; William, who likewise makes his home at Norwalk; Tillie, living at Monroeville, who is the wife of George Palding, by whom she has one child, Gilbert; and one who died in infancy.

In his political views Mr. March is a staunch republican and has capably served his fellow townsmen in the positions of school director and road supervisor. In religious faith he is a Catholic and belongs to the church of that denomination at Monroeville. His genuine personal worth and many sterling traits of character have gained him the friendship and regard of those with whom he has been associated, and in matters of citizenship he is as loyal to his adopted country as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields.

GEORGE E. CANFIELD.

George E. Canfield, farmer and oil operative of Wakeman township is a worthy descendant of one of the pioneer families of the county, his wife also claiming distinction in that respect, the Shermans having been equally well and favorably known in the days of "auld lang syne." They live in one of the most lovely of the fine farm homes familiar to Huron county residents—supplied with all the modern conveniences and comforts, and with choice books, music and flowers, and a congenial and refined atmosphere pervading it all—a place where intimate friend and partial stranger alike love to linger.

George E. Canfield's nativity lies right where he now lives, the date having been April 8, 1849. His farm is the first one owned by his father, Calvert C. Canfield, of splendid reputation among the older residents of the county. An elder brother of George E. is treated elsewhere in this volume, and the reader is referred to his sketch for further family data. George E. Canfield was the youngest of the family. He was liberally educated, passing from the public schools to Oberlin College and Berlin Heights Academy. In the interim of his school life, he learned under the master hand of his father to cultivate the old homestead, and thus at age found himself competent to handle all the problems of farm life. He was married in the year of his majority, October 11, 1870, to Miss Florence G. Sherman, a daughter of John and Julia (Beecher) Sherman. They were farmers of Wakeman township, their ancestry hailing from Bridgewater, Connecticut, and settling in Huron about 1818. Mrs. Canfield's mother died in young womanhood, she being her only child, and John Sherman married a second time. He died in 1890, full of years, respected by all.

To Mr. and Mrs. Canfield have been born two children, the elder of whom, Mary E., born February 26, 1874, died May 20, 1875. The younger, also named Mary E., born June 11, 1876, is now the wife of Earl H. Jaynes, an attorney of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Canfield brought his wife, at marriage, direct to the home roof and here they have since lived. There are one hundred and one acres in the old homestead, fine and fair to look upon. Indeed it is kept more like a park, with its private golf links, and splendid, tiled fields. In connection with his farming interests, Mr. Canfield has, of late years, in company with his brother-in-law, John M. Sherman, operated in oil at Fremont, Ohio, and quite successfully.

A republican in politics, he casts an intelligent vote, but eschews office. He and his family are active workers in the Congregational church and Sunday school, of which he has been a trustee for fifteen years. Their home, open to a host of refined and cultured friends from city and countryside, Mr. and Mrs. Canfield wield a powerful influence for good throughout Huron county.

W. E. GILL, M. D.

As a citizen as well as a physician, Dr. Gill takes high rank in Norwalk. He was born in Ridgeville, Huron county, August 16, 1855. His father, Edward Gill, was born on the Isle of Man and when twenty-five years of age crossed the Atlantic to the new world, establishing his home in this county. He was a ship carpenter by trade and a fine mechanic, but after taking up his abode in Ohio his attention was turned to general farming, which he followed just across the line in Erie county. He married Miss Esther Young, a daughter of Lazarus Young and a native of Huron county. It was after the birth of their son, Dr. Gill, that the parents removed to Erie county, where the father continuously engaged in farming until his life's labors were ended in death in 1899. His family numbered four sons and six daughters, who were a credit and honor to his name.

Dr. Gill supplemented his early education acquired in the district schools by study in the high school of Monroeville, and also in the Ohio State University at Athens. His literary training therefore proved an excellent foundation upon which to build the superstructure of his professional knowledge. He entered upon the study of medicine under the direction of Doctors Maguire and Morrell, old and prominent physicians of Norwalk, and later was graduated from the Pulte Medical College, of Cincinnati, with the class of 1876. He at once located in Norwalk for the practice of his profession and has since maintained his office here. Throughout the entire time he has lived in the same locality and is one of the best known citizens of the county. Following his graduation he practiced for some time in partnership with his old preceptor, Dr. Morrell, and has since been alone. He is widely recognized as a physician of marked ability and of thorough understanding of the scientific principles of the profession. He has ever kept abreast with the trend of modern thought, research and investigation, and while he is not hasty in discrediting the old and time-tried methods of practice, at the same time he quickly takes up any new idea which he believes will prove of practical value in his chosen life work.

In 1879 Dr. Gill was married to Miss Sarah A. Cline, a daughter of John Cline, one of the pioneer residents of this city. They now have one son, Robert Cline, who was born November 17, 1888. Dr. Gill is a prominent Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He is most highly respected as a citizen and one whose efforts in behalf of public progress have been valuable elements in its welfare and upbuilding. He has cooperated in many movements that have been beneficial to both the city and county and in all of his citizenship manifests a most patriotic spirit. In professional lines he is connected with the Huron County Medical Society, of which he is the secretary, and with the Ohio State Medical Society. Anything which tends to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life is of interest to him, and his ability and devotion to his professional work have long been recognized and have won him honorable success.

NORMAN A. BARNES.

Norman A. Barnes, the owner of considerable property in the town of Bellevue, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, June 28, 1824, the son of Norman and Sybel (Parker) Barnes, both of whom lived in that county until their death, which occurred in the case of the father in 1838, when he was but forty-seven years of age. The mother, on the other hand lived to the advanced age of ninety-two, having known forty-five years of widowhood. The loneliness of these, however, was alleviated through the loving care of ten children, though but few of these exhibited the hardiness of life that distinguished her. Of this large family but one beside the subject of this sketch survives, James C., the fourth son. Those deceased are Walter S., Sylvester, Charles, Lucinda, Mamie, Jane, and two who did not live beyond the period of childhood.

Norman A. Barnes, who was the eighth in this large family, spent the first nineteen years of his life in the county of his birth. From there he went to Lewis county, New York, where he learned the trade of harnessmaker and lived for two years. In 1845 he came west to Ohio, pursuing his trade in various cities of the state, such as Dayton, Cincinnati, and others, until in 1849, when he came to Bellevue. Here he started in the harness business on Main street, and though he was more than moderately successful, his health began to fail him after four years' application and he gave it up. He then commenced buying and selling live stock, seeking a market in New York and other cities in the east. For upwards of forty years he was engaged in this business, changing his methods with the changes that passed over the country during all those years, for when he first commenced dealing in live stock, he was wont to go on horseback over the country to any place he heard that fine animals were to be procured. When he retired from active participation in the business, the life of a stockman had become in many particulars a less strenuous one.

On the 10th of October, 1850, Mr. Barnes was united in marriage to Miss Julia A. Sloane, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Skinner) Sloane, who were born August 18, 1786, and January 13, 1792, respectively. Their birth fol-

lowed shortly upon the permanent establishment of the federal government, and their deaths, the father's occurring November 4, 1850, the mother's, March 13, 1862, antedated by but a few years the great struggle for this same government's preservation. Mr. Sloane was a native of Vermont and his wife of New Hampshire. Their union was blessed with nine children, all of whom but Mrs. Barnes, the youngest, have passed away. The others were Flavilla, Annetta, Elvira, Lucinda, Joseph, William, Sirenus and Elizabeth. Mrs. Barnes was born in York, Livingston county, New York, on the 22d of January, 1828 and was the mother of two children, both of whom she survives. Ella F., who was born October 16, 1851, died February 1, 1900; and Julia F., born July 2, 1853, died in September the year following.

Fraternally Mr. Barnes is connected with the Masons, and has the distinction of being the oldest member of the Bellevue Lodge, No. 273 A. F. & A. M. Some years ago he was presented with a fine knife, which is hereafter to descend and to be the property of the oldest member. From 1866, Mr. Barnes dates his affiliation with the organization, and during that time was chaplain of the blue lodge, and counsellor for ten years. In politics he gives his allegiance to the republican party and has served as councilman of his town for a number of years as the choice of his party. In the Congregational church, of which he has been a member for sixty-two years, he has held the honorable position of deacon for a long time. In short, he is a man who in the many years he has made Bellevue his home, has ever stood for its advancement and stability. He is well known, and the reputation which has spread abroad concerning him is one that might be a credit to any man. There are but few who can boast that they have lived five years past a half-century in the same house.

FRANK J. WALTER.

Frank J. Walter is the owner of a finely improved farm of seventy acres in Ridgefield township, where he successfully and energetically carries on his agricultural interests. His birth occurred in Peru township, Huron county, on the 28th of March, 1857, his parents being Joseph and Biligaldas (Snyder) Walter, both of whom were natives of Baden, Germany. The former, who was born in 1825, was but six years of age when he made the voyage to the United States with his father, Frantz Walter, who was engaged in the butchering business in this county at an early day, supplying meat for the men employed on the construction of the Lake Shore Railroad. This venture did not prove profitable, however, as he lost considerable money through a dishonest foreman. Joseph Walter, the father of our subject, obtained his early education in the district schools and was identified with agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He purchased his farm from Christ Duffner and as the years went by made many substantial improvements on the property, erecting a commodious and attractive residence as well as good barns and outbuildings. He capably served in the position of township trustee for a number of years and was a communicant of the Catholic church at Monroeville, in the faith of which

he passed away in 1907. His wife, whose birth had occurred in 1829, was called to her final rest in 1899. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, namely: Dennis, who is deceased; Frank J., of this review; William; Emma, who has also passed away; Jennie, who is the widow of Henry Zipfel and resides at Monroeville, Ohio; and Adolph.

Frank J. Walter supplemented his preliminary education, acquired in the district schools, by a course of study at Notre Dame and since putting aside his text-books has given his time and energies in undivided manner to the work of the fields. As before stated, his farm comprises seventy acres of productive land in Ridgefield township, which he purchased from his father's estate. He is a thorough student of the scientific methods of farming and has adopted all that is progressive in that line. This, together with his untiring industry and unremitting energy, has made him one of the prosperous and representative agriculturists, as well as substantial citizens, of his native county.

In the spring of 1894 Mr. Walter was united in marriage to Miss Sadie Spohrer, a daughter of Joseph and Tracy Spohrer, who were natives of Germany and became residents of Huron county, Ohio, on their emigration to the new world. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Walter have been born two children, Adela and Albert, both at home. Mr. Walter is a devoted and faithful member of the Catholic church. He has been a resident of this county throughout his entire life and that his career has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his stanch friends and admirers.

DANIEL E. SHEDD.

It is but proper that the name of Daniel E. Shedd should be mentioned in this volume in connection with the honored dead of Huron county, for he was for many years one of the progressive and public spirited men of Norwalk township, where he was engaged in farming pursuits. He was a native of this county, born in Peru township, February 23, 1839, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Shedd. The former was a native of New York state and was a Minute Man in the Revolutionary war.

Daniel E. Shedd, whose name introduces this record, was reared in Huron county and started out in the business world as a railroad employe, acting as conductor on a train for nine years. In 1874, however, he purchased a farm of seventy-five acres in Norwalk township, which he operated during the remainder of his active business career, or until his death, which occurred June 14, 1896, and this property is still in possession of his widow. In his work Mr. Shedd always displayed a most progressive spirit and in his undertakings met with success so that he was numbered among the county's substantial farmers and public spirited men.

It was on the 1st of January, 1863, that Mr. Shedd was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Jane Standish, who was born April 4, 1841, in North Fairfield, Huron county. Her paternal grandfather was Peleg Standish, who was born in New York. Her father, Zachariah Standish, was a farmer by occu-



MR. AND MRS. D. E. SHEDD

pation and is now deceased. He was a direct descendant of Miles Standish, a renowned military leader and the subject of Longfellow's celebrated poem entitled *The Courtship of Miles Standish*. Zachariah Standish wedded Miss Lucy Smith, a daughter of Aaron and Esther Smith, residents of North Fairfield, Huron county. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Shedd was blessed with two sons and one daughter. Edward D., the eldest, wedded Miss Alice House, of Norwalk, a daughter of Hiram K. House, who once served as mayor of that city. Their children, three in number, are Charles G., Earl and Mary E. Charles S., the next member of the Shedd family, is with his mother on the home farm, which he is operating. Maisie, the only daughter, is the wife of Albert B. Kittinger, a resident of East Townsend, Huron county, and they have one son, Clair Shedd Kittinger, who was born in 1898. All the children were accorded liberal educational advantages, completing their studies in the Norwalk schools.

Mr. Shedd was identified with the agricultural life of this section of the state for almost a quarter of a century and during this time took a deep interest in the advancement and progress that was made in this direction. He led a busy, useful life, was honorable in all business dealings, considerate of the welfare of his family, and thus his death, which occurred June 14, 1896, when he had reached the age of fifty-seven years, was mourned not only by the members of his own household but as well by a host of warm and admiring friends.

CHARLES GODFRED.

Charles Godfred, a well known and prosperous agriculturist of Bronson township, was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1837, a son of Philip and Barbara (Hertl) Godfred. When but a small babe he was brought to this country by his parents, the family home being established in Huron county, Ohio. The brothers and sisters of our subject are as follows: Philip, Adam, Jacob, Peter, Louis, Harriett, Minnie and Caroline.

In early manhood Charles Godfred was employed for six years as the traveling representative of a firm dealing in agricultural implements and likewise held a position as bookkeeper in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He worked in various capacities in different parts of the country but since the time of his marriage has devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits and still lives on his farm in Bronson township. By reason of his persistent and unflagging energy, guided by sound judgment, he has won a creditable and commendable measure of prosperity in his undertakings and has gained wide and favorable recognition as a substantial, representative and respected citizen of his community. He can read and speak German, French and English and is well educated in these languages.

In 1872, Mr. Godfred was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Brandt, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Casper and Mary Brandt, who came to this state from Switzerland. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Godfred have been born the following children: Henry C., Frank, Ralph, Louisa and Laura. The parents are consistent and faithful members of the German Reformed church and are highly

esteemed as people of genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives. Though Mr. Godfred has now passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, in spirit and interests he seems yet in his prime and his active and useful career has made him well worthy the respect and regard which are uniformly accorded him.

ALBERT C. WILLIAMS.

Albert C. Williams, a representative and prosperous agriculturist of Lyme township, owning a valuable farm of ninety-one acres, has continuously lived on this place from his birth to the present time, his natal day being April 5, 1837. His parents were C. C. and Mary Williams, the former born May 15, 1796, and the latter on the 22d of August, 1795. In the year of 1834 they made their way from Orange, New Jersey, to Lyme township, Huron county, the father purchasing the farm which is now the property of his son, Albert C. He was successfully identified with agricultural interests throughout his active business career and remained a worthy and respected resident of the community until called to his final rest on the 15th of June, 1862. His wife, surviving him for a number of years, passed away December 23, 1887, in her ninety-third year, in the faith of the Episcopal church, with which Mr. Williams was also affiliated. Unto this worthy couple were born nine children. Sarah E., whose birth occurred January 27, 1823, died on the 25th of January, 1890. Abraham, born August 4, 1824, passed away September 24, 1824. Phoebe Harriet, who first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 27th of October, 1825, was called to her home beyond on the 8th of April, 1907. Abraham W., who was born January 6, 1828, met death on the 16th of August, 1844, being kicked by a horse. Mary Frances, born May 6, 1830, passed away on the 28th of October, 1889. Caleb Dayton, whose birth occurred April 6, 1832, did active duty in the Union army as first lieutenant of Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was killed in the service on the 18th of July, 1864. Benjamin Heber, born May 13, 1834, likewise laid down his life on the altar of his country, being killed while serving as a private of Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Albert C., of this review, is the next in order of birth. Charles H., who was born December 9, 1840, passed away on the 9th of November, 1890.

Albert C. Williams attended the district schools in pursuit of an education and early in life also became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, for he assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm. On attaining man's estate he chose as a life work the occupation to which he had been reared and in his farming operations has met with that measure of prosperity which is ever the reward of persistent and untiring labor when guided by sound judgment and keen discrimination.

On the 5th of December, 1866, Mr. Williams was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Frith, whose birth occurred in Lyme township, December 10, 1843, her parents being George and Elizabeth Ann Frith, who were natives of London,

England, and in 1834 established their home in Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams have been born six children. Gertrude E. and Benjamin H., who reside at home, are engaged in the conduct of a dairy. Herbert F., living in Lyme township, wedded Miss Mary Southworth, by whom he has one child, Albert F. Dayton A., who married Miss Julia Cavanaugh, makes his home in Tacoma, Washington. Alice F., is the wife of Dr. Rufus Southworth and has two children, Edward and Elizabeth Ann, twins. They reside at Glendale, Hamilton county, Ohio. Harold B. is a resident of Tacoma, Washington.

In his political views Mr. Williams is a stalwart and inflexible republican and has capably served his fellow townsmen in various positions of public trust and responsibility. He was township trustee for four years, acted as county commissioner from 1873 until 1882 and has also been a member of the school board, ever discharging his official duties in a prompt and efficient manner. He is a life-long member of the Episcopal church at Monroeville and for twenty years has been its senior warden. Having spent their entire lives in this county, both he and his wife are widely and favorably known within its borders, while their many excellent traits of character have gained them the respect and esteem of all with whom they have been associated.

W. H. SATTIG.

On the roster of capable and loyal public officials in Huron county appears the name of W. H. Sattig, one of the native sons of Norwalk township, his birth having there occurred on the 17th of September, 1861. His father, Martin Sattig, was a native of Alsace, Germany, born in 1811, and the year 1826 witnessed his arrival in Norwalk township. After a brief period he removed to Ashland county, Ohio, where he lived for a year and then went to St. Louis, where he remained for three years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Norwalk and after a short time passed in the city gave his attention to farming interests, which he followed about two miles from the county seat. There he lived until 1887, when he removed to the town, continuing to make it his place of residence until he was called to his final home in 1895. He was a man greatly respected because of his genuine personal worth, his good qualities winning him warm friendships wherever he was known. He married a Miss Humm, a native of France, and they became the parents of eleven children, four sons and seven daughters, all born in the same house in Norwalk township. Eight of this number are still residents of Huron county.

W. H. Sattig acquired his early education in the country schools and afterward attended Milan Academy. He crossed the threshold of the business world as an employee of the Lake Shore Railroad Company, with which he continued until 1890, when he became night policeman in Norwalk. On his retirement from that position he spent five years in the employ of the Chase Piano Company, after which he was again called to public office, serving as marshal of the city for two terms. He had previously learned the carpenter's trade in his youth

and after the expiration of his term as marshal he again took up work along that line. He also engaged in farming until he was elected sheriff of the county in 1907. He is the first democrat ever chosen to the office and in his election overcame a normal republican majority of fifteen to eighteen hundred, being elected by nearly seven hundred votes ahead of his opponent, which indicates his personal popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him.

In 1884 Mr. Sattig was married to Miss Lena A. Meyers, a daughter of Jacob Meyers, one of the well known pioneer residents of Norwalk township. They now have one daughter, Emma W. Mr. Sattig is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and with the Knights of the Macca-bees. He is familiarly known throughout the county as "Hank" Sattig. What is more pleasing than a nickname? It indicates close friendship and kindly regard, congenial companionship and attractive social qualities. All these are characteristic of Mr. Sattig, who has been a life-long resident of Huron county and in his official and business relations has made a creditable record. More than eight decades have passed since the family was first established in this part of the state and in the intervening years the representatives of the name have borne a commendable share in the work of general improvement and progress here.

MELVIN J. HURST.

Melvin J. Hurst, a prominent farmer of Wakeman township and a representative of one of the pioneer families of the county, was born in Camden, Lorain county, Ohio, May 18, 1864. His parents, John and Mary (Longeway) Hurst, were natives of Quebec, Canada, where they resided until 1854, when they came to the United States and settled in Lorain county. There in a prosperous farming country they took up their residence with the pioneers, becoming one of them, not only by long residence, but by the substantial qualities of good citizenship. For sixteen years the father engaged in farming in Lorain county, when he moved his family to Wakeman, where they have since resided. There were four children in the family: Pamela, Noble G., Margaret and Melvin J., all of whom are living except Pamela. The father died in October, 1892, and the mother May 29, 1907. The three deceased members of the family lie in Wakeman cemetery.

Melvin J. Hurst, the youngest son, who forms the immediate subject of this review, was educated in the public schools of Wakeman. This schooling, together with the experimental knowledge acquired during his youth, as assistant in the general farm work, laid the foundation of his present prosperity.

On January 4, 1890, Mr. Hurst married Miss Jennie Beecher, a daughter of Horace and Fannie (Pierce) Beecher. Both the Pierce and Beecher families were among the very early pioneers of Huron county and were prominent in the development which followed. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hurst eight children were born, seven sons and a daughter: Horace B., John M., Lynn M., Helen M., Harold W., Kenneth, Elten and Charles W., all living at home. After marriage Mr. Hurst farmed in another part of the county until 1893, when he re-

moved to the old homestead in the central part of Wakeman township, where he has since resided. His specialty is general and systematic farming, though he raises stock to some extent. He has a farm of one hundred and seven acres and the yield per acre is unusually large under his skillful management. Few farms in the township equal it in productive values.

Mr. Hurst exhibits fine public spirit and is always interested in the affairs of his county. He served a period of three years as trustee of his township. In politics he is a stanch republican, one of the stand-patters, but he takes only such part in the affairs of his party as is consistent with good citizenship, not caring for office. His beliefs are embodied in public improvements, good roads, best of educational advantages, and he insists on an honest expenditure of the public money.

Socially Mr. Hurst is a member of the Maccabees, and in Christian work the Congregational church claims his family's allegiance, the whole family being active workers in that organization. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hurst believe in higher education and the younger members of the family will be given the best. The home itself represents the character and thoughts of the family, being well supplied with good standard and current literature and bearing every evidence of its refining influence.

JOHN C. RANSOM.

John C. Ransom, who for more than six decades was numbered among the most prominent and respected residents of Huron county, was born in Lyme, Connecticut, on the 11th of August, 1819, and passed away June 4, 1903, when he had attained the age of eighty-three years, nine months and twenty-four days. His parents were Captain Judah and Nancy M. Ransom. The father was one of the pioneers of modern navigation on the great chain of lakes, having been the first navigator who sailed to the upper lakes and returned. Those of the early settlers of this county who still survive, well remember the fatal voyage of the "Helen Marx" in 1840. The boat left Sandusky in November with a cargo of wheat and was wrecked at Point Abino, twenty miles from Buffalo, carrying to a watery grave her heroic commander, Captain Judah Ransom, and his entire crew. Captain Ransom's widow and her children were left to fight the battles incident to life in the Firelands in those early days, the Captain having acquired several hundred acres of land in Hartland township, Huron county, Ohio. The children were three in number, as follows: Elizabeth D., Charles H. and John C.

The last named took up his abode in Hartland township in 1842, and by his well directed and unremitting efforts transformed a timber tract into a productive farm and beautiful home. Surrounded, as we are in this day, with highly developed farms and attractive and palatial residences, it is difficult for those who are enjoying the fruits of the labor of those sturdy pioneer farmers who wrought this mighty change, to appreciate the task of the transforming hand. Coming from stanch New England stock, Mr. Ransom inherited all those noble

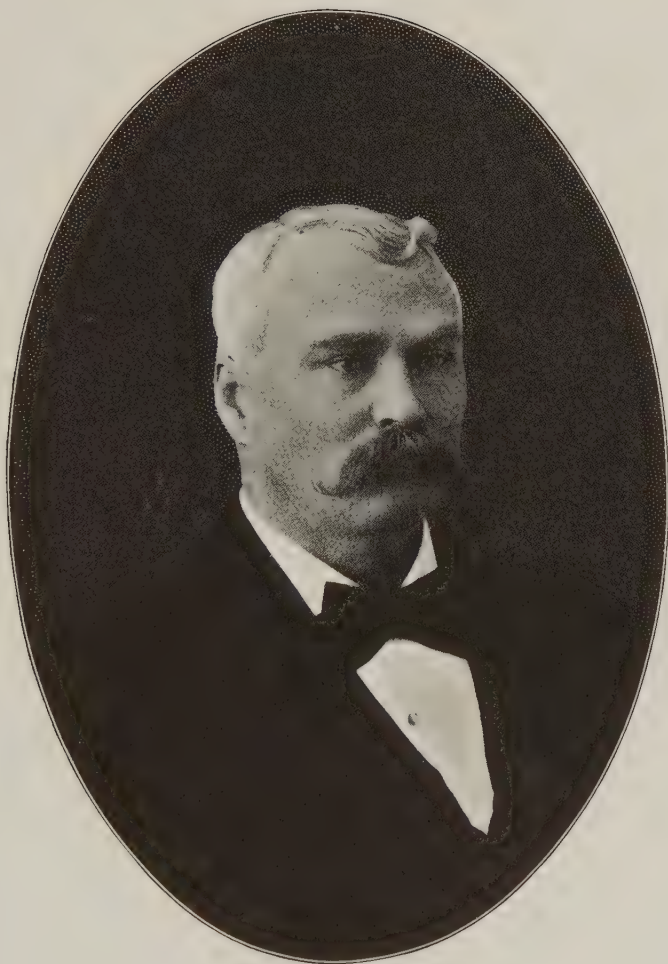
qualities with which the Puritan was endowed, thus fitting him for the hardships he was called upon to endure. Success eventually crowned his labors and he became one of the most prosperous and influential residents of the county. He owned about one thousand two hundred and forty acres of valuable land and also had other financial interests.

In 1844 Mr. Ransom was united in marriage to Miss Gitty Ann Johnson, whose birth occurred December 28, 1823 in Middlesex county, New Jersey, her parents being William and Lydia Johnson, natives of the state of New Jersey. In 1835 they made their way to Hartland township, this county, becoming prominent factors in the pioneer development and upbuilding of the community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ransom were born four children, the record of whom is as follows. George W., a resident of Wellington, Ohio, married Miss Olive C. Case, a daughter of Charles and Emeline Case, of Clarksfield township. They have one daughter, Anna E., now the wife of Frederick Frazier, of Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Mary C. Ransom and her brother, Charles J., both reside on the old homestead in Hartland township. John H., the second member of the family, is deceased, having been called to his final rest on the 22d of February, 1899. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Ann Snyder, was a daughter of Benjamin F. and Mary (Biddinger) Snyder, of Ashland county, Ohio. She still survives her husband and the two daughters of her marriage are also yet living. They are: Lena M., the wife of Holland S. Donaldson, of Cleveland; and Mary I., who is the wife of Clifton D. Tucker, of Los Angeles, California. The death of Mrs. Gitty Ann Ransom, the wife of John C. Ransom, occurred on the 9th of March, 1892, about eleven years prior to the demise of her husband.

Mr. Ransom exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party but, though a man of strong political convictions, he had no desire for the honors and emoluments of office, for he was quiet and retiring in disposition and preferred the seclusion of his own pleasant home to the glamour of publicity. He was deprived of educational advantages in his youthful years but had such an inherent fondness for books that he easily overcame this lack of early mental training and in later years became recognized as a widely informed and well educated man. Honorable in business, loyal in citizenship, charitable in thought, kindly in action, true to every trust confided to his care, he commanded the respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. As before stated, his son and daughter, Mary C. and Charles J., now live on the old family homestead in Hartland township—celebrated for its attractive surroundings as well as for its hospitable and refined atmosphere.

S. H. COOK.

S. H. Cook, a well known business man of Bellevue, Ohio, was born in Seneca county, New York, October 22, 1844, the son of Elihu and Lorinda (Hall) Cook. The mother died there two years after the birth of this son, at the early age of twenty-eight, and the father subsequently came to Ohio, settling in Huron county. He lived here but a short time, when he removed to Republic, Seneca county, Ohio,



S. H. COOK

where he made his home for some five years. From there he went to Michigan, and in Clinton county, that state, his death occurred in 1861, at the age of forty-six. By his first marriage Mr. Cook had two sons: Artemus, who lives in St. Louis, Michigan; and S. H. Cook, our subject. By his second marriage, his wife being Miss Magdalena Burbick, he had two more children: William, who lives at College Place, Washington; and Elihu, whose home is in Bay City, Michigan.

S. H. Cook lived in Michigan some few months after his father's death and then came to Bellevue, where he enlisted in Company D, Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the First Piatt Zouaves. His experiences in the war of the Rebellion were numerous and the list of his campaigns, which is a long one, may be summarized as follows: he enlisted at Flat Rock, Ohio, August 22, 1862, joined regiment at Point Pleasant, Virginia, in September; participated in battle of Buf-falo Gap, West Virginia, September 27, 1862; Manassas Gap, Virginia, November 5, 1862; Wytheville, Virginia, July 17, 1863; Averills raid through West Virginia, August 25th to the 30th, 1863; Princeton, West Virginia, May 6, 1863; Cloyd Mountain, Virginia, May 9, 1864; Cove Mountain, Virginia, May 9th and 10th, 1864; New River, Virginia, May 10, 1864; Salt Pond Mountain, June 1, 1864; Panthers Gap, West Virginia, June 3, 1864; Piedmont, Virginia, June 5, 1864; Buffalo Gap, West Virginia, June 6, 1864; Lexington, West Virginia, June 10th and 11th, 1864; Buchanan, West Virginia, June 14, 1864; Otter Creek, Virginia, June 16, 1864; Lynchburg, Virginia, June 17th and 18th, 1864; Liberty, Virginia, June 20, 1864; Salem, Virginia, June 21, 1864; Monocacy, Maryland, July 9, 1864; Snickers Gap, Virginia, July 17, 1864; Snickers Ferry, Virginia, July 18, 1864; Winchester, Virginia, July 20, 1864; Kernstown, Virginia, July 23, 1864; Winchester, Virginia, July 24, 1864; Martinsburg, Virginia, July 25, 1864; Summit Point, Virginia, August 21, 1864; Halltown, Virginia, August 24-26-27, 1864; Berryville, Virginia, September 3, 1864; Opequan, Virginia, September 19, 1864; Fishers Hill, Virginia, September 22, 1864; Strasburg, Virginia, October 9, 1864. Later he was sent to the hospital at Baltimore on the sick list, where he remained until discharged from the army, June 7, 1865. Upon returning from service he came to Bellevue, but remained here only two months, when he went to Michigan, which was the scene of his labors for about three years. From there he came again to Bellevue, where he has lived ever since.

On the 2d of December, 1873, Mr. Cook was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Baughman, the daughter of Hieronymous Baughman, of Bellevue. Mr. Cook's old regiment chaplain performed the ceremony and blessed the couple, such being the wish of the man who endured so much on the field of battle when the Rev. Collier's words of counsel gave added courage. No children have been born of this marriage.

In his youth Mr. Cook learned the cooper's trade, at which he worked for some time, and for a few years he served as a grocery clerk, but it is as the proprietor of a restaurant that he is best known, for he has been engaged in that business for the past twenty-five years. He has other commercial interests, for he is a stockholder and a member of the board of directors of the Bellevue Kraut Company. He belongs to the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic and in the company of his fellow soldiers revives the memories of those four years of fighting. His fraternal affiliations are with the Royal Arcanum, of which he

is a devoted member, and in Masonry he holds membership in the blue lodge, chapter and council. Mr. Cook is one of that rapidly diminishing body of men who are living examples of a militant patriotism. As an old soldier and for the qualities of noble manhood which he possesses, he is respected among those who know him.

LOUIS GRINE.

Louis Grine, the owner of a tract of land of one hundred and eighty acres in Peru township, devotes his attention to farming, which George Washington designated as "the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man." His birth occurred in Sherman township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 23d of January, 1869, his parents being Alois and Kathryn (Houch) Grine, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Peru township, this county. The father, whose birth occurred in the year 1840, set sail for the United States in 1861 and after landing on the shores of the new world, he came to Sherman township, this county, where he worked at carpentering for a number of years, having learned that trade in his native country. Subsequently he purchased eighteen acres of land in Sherman township and later bought more land in Peru township. Both he and his wife still survive and make their home in Sherman township, being well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth. His wife, who was born in Peru township on the 11th of November, 1846, was a daughter of Lawrence and Kathryn Houch, early settlers of this county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Alois Grine were born nine children, as follows: Emma, who is the wife of August Miller and resides on a farm near Tiffin, Ohio; Louis, of this review; Joseph, a resident of Buffalo, New York; Mary, living in Cleveland, Ohio; Daniel, of Peru township; Peter, who makes his home at Ellwood City, Pennsylvania; George, who lives in Washington, near the Pacific coast; Rose, who resides near Tiffin, Ohio; and Edward, of Buffalo, New York.

In the acquirement of an education Louis Grine attended the district and German schools of Sherman township and there continued to make his home until twenty-seven years of age, since which time he has resided in Peru township. In 1882, he bought from Eli Ellis the farm of one hundred and eighty acres which he now operates and the many substantial improvements which are seen on the property bespeak his thrift and enterprise. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and annually garners bounteous harvests as the result of his care and labor in the cultivation of the fields.

On the 23d of January, 1900, Mr. Grine was united in marriage to Miss Isabelle Fisher, a native of Sherman township and a daughter of George and Josephine (Setterly) Fisher, who were born in Germany, but are now residents of Sherman township. They reared a family of ten children, namely: George; Elizabeth; Joseph, who is now deceased; Marx; Mary; Carrie; Rose; Isabell, now Mrs. Grine; William; and Catherine. Mr. and Mrs. Grine have no children of their own, but have an adopted son, George Eckert, whom they took from the Cleveland Home.

In January, 1908, as a candidate of the democratic party, Mr. Grine was elected a township trustee and is therefore the present incumbent in that position. He likewise held the office of road supervisor in Sherman township for a number of years. Both he and his wife are faithful communicants of the Catholic church at Monroeville and have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which their entire lives have been spent.

L. P. HENSINGER.

L. P. Hensinger, mayor of Chicago Junction and also well known in connection with the business interests of the city, being now engaged in real estate dealing, was born in Indiana, August 4, 1863. His father, John Hensinger, was a native of Pennsylvania, and came to Seneca county, Ohio, with his parents, where they lived for a short time, a removal then being made to Allen county, Indiana, where the family became identified with general agricultural pursuits. In 1866, John Hensinger came again to Ohio and once more took up his abode in Seneca county. He became a prominent farmer, merchant and miller and is still in active business there. He celebrated his golden wedding in 1904, having been married in 1854 to Miss Catherine Newkirk, a native of Ohio. He is a very active man in both business and public affairs and his influence on the life of the community is a beneficial and far-reaching one.

L. P. Hensinger was educated in the country schools of Huron county, where he obtained his diploma, after which he entered the milling business in connection with his father at West Lodi. There he continued for seven years when he came to Chicago Junction, arriving in 1893. Here he built and successfully operated a mill for seven years, after which he leased it and turned his attention to the grocery business, which he conducted until 1909, when he sold out and embarked in the real estate business. He now has an extensive clientage in this connection, handling town and farm property, and is doing a very extensive business throughout the southwest and Canada, while at the same time he is interested in property in Chicago Junction. He is quite successful, displaying intelligent appreciation of opportunities and at all times keeping well informed concerning property values. In December, 1907, he was elected mayor of Chicago Junction and is now filling the office, giving to the city a businesslike and progressive administration. He has also done other important public service, having been for two years a member of the school board, while for two years he served on the city council and for two years was on the board of public service, his previous official duties well qualifying him for the mayoralty, and as chief executive of the city he has instituted various needed reforms and improvements. He has been a very active politician, and a strong testimonial of his popularity is the fact that he has always received a substantial majority in a republican district although he is a pronounced democrat. He ever has the courage of his convictions, fearlessly advocating any cause that he may espouse.

In 1888, Mr. Hensinger was united in marriage to Miss Laura S. Norris, a native of Seneca county and a daughter of John T. and Elizabeth Norris. They

have six children: Alta B., Mabel M., Hazel B., Eula E., Delbert N. and Eva M. The family attend and support the Methodist church, of which Mr. Hensinger is a member. He also belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. His life work has been characterized by continuous progress, whether in private or business affairs or in public service and the many substantial qualities that he has displayed, have won him the esteem, good will and confidence of all who know him.

E. D. SACKETT.

E. D. Sackett, engaged in the practice of law in Norwalk, was born near New London, in Huron county, Ohio, November 7, 1860, and is a representative of an old New England family. His father, D. R. Sackett, was born in Connecticut in the early '40s and, removing westward to Huron county, carried on the occupation of farming for a time, but after a brief period removed to New London, where he lived for many years. He was long connected with the business interests of the town and was a prominent and respected resident there. He served for some time as justice of the peace and was also elected mayor of the city. In 1893, he removed to Chicago, where he engaged in business for a number of years, but later went to the Pacific coast and is now a resident of California. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Jane Washburn, was born in Huron county, a daughter of James Washburn, who came to this section of the state at a time when he had to chop his way through the forests. His father, Joseph Washburn, was one of the very earliest pioneers of northern Ohio and the founder of the Washburn family which is now a numerous and influential one in the southeastern part of the county. The death of Mrs. Sackett occurred in 1892, when she was fifty-three years of age, ere the removal of her husband to Chicago.

E. D. Sackett spent his early childhood under the parental roof, and the schools of Lebanon and Oberlin, Ohio, afforded him his educational privileges. When his literary course was completed, he took up the study of law and was graduated from the Michigan University at Ann Arbor in the class of 1884. He then practiced in Huron county until 1893, after which he went to Chicago to take charge of his father's business, for the father's health had failed. E. D. Sackett also practiced law in the city on the lake and after residing there for a time, went to San Diego, California, where he engaged in the practice of his profession for three years. In 1898, he returned to New London, where he opened a law office, but in 1900, he sought a broader field of labor by a removal to Norwalk, being engaged on the editorial staff of law publishing department of the Laning Company for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period, he took up active practice, which he carries on alone, and that his knowledge of the law is comprehensive and exact is manifest in the success which has attended him in the trial of his cases. Earnest effort, close application and the exercise of his native talents have won him prestige as a lawyer at a bar which has numbered many eminent men.

In 1889, Mr. Sackett was married to Miss May Johnson, a daughter of Alvin Johnson, and a granddaughter of David Johnson, a prominent early citizen and one of the first sheriffs of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Sackett have one son, Victor, who was born February 24, 1891.

Mr. Sackett is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and also of the Macabbees tent. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he is one of the active workers in its ranks, doing all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of the party. He has served as secretary of the executive committee and is a good manager and organizer. He is widely and favorably known throughout this, his native county, and his salient characteristics are of that substantial character which everywhere win respect and regard.

CHARLES A. RUSSELL.

Charles A. Russell, proprietor of Maple Hill farm in Wakeman township, was born October 18, 1867, and is a native of the township in which he resides. He is a son of William H. and Emerette (Palmotier) Russell. The father was a native of Huron county and his grandfather, Isaac Russell, came from Scotland as a boy with his parents, who settled in Connecticut. At eighteen years of age Isaac came to Wakeman, where he was married first to a Miss Sisson, who lived but a year and was the mother of William H. Isaac Russell was a shoemaker in Birmingham, Erie county, Ohio, for many years, but farmed after coming to Huron county. William H. Russell learned the cooper's trade and later engaging in the lumber business, at present resides in Shiloh, Richland county, a purchasing agent for a large lumber company.

Charles A. Russell was educated in the Wakeman public schools, supplementing that knowledge by a term at an academy at Collins. He learned the trade of tinner, which he followed for five years, spending a like period of time as a clerk in a clothing store in Wakeman. In 1881, yielding to the call of the great west, he went to Lincoln, Nebraska, where, for two years, he worked on a stock ranch, with a shorter period in a store in the city. Returning to Wakeman in 1883, he again engaged in clerking, and put in some time at his trade. He then married and settled down, clerking for two years, and then located on Maple Hill farm, where he has since resided. This is one of the choice farms of Wakeman township, containing one hundred and seventy-five acres of splendidly improved land, with substantial and roomy buildings, all new and modern. His residence is lighted with acetylene and supplied with water throughout, as are also all the barns and stables. He engages in general farming, specializing in Merino-Delaine sheep, being both breeder and feeder. He has been very successful, handling large flocks at all times.

Mr. Russell was married December 17, 1889, to Miss Bertha D. Rowland, a daughter of Samuel and Betsy (Wall) Rowland, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Russell as follows: Iona E. and Gladys A., both of whom are still inmates of the home.

Mr. Russell takes an active interest in the affairs of his home community, supports republican principles, and he served for three years as presiding judge of the township board of elections and also as a member of the republican county central committee. He and his family are members of the Congregational church and are quite active in all its interests. Mrs. Russell is a lady of superior attainments, being especially gifted as a vocalist. She was educated in music at the Oberlin Conservatory. Her public appearances, which are frequent throughout the county, leave nothing to be desired in the warmth of her reception. A splendid home-keeper, she deserves credit for much of her husband's success. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are prominent in the social life of the community and are popular with friends and neighbors.

ELMER E. ROWLAND.

Elmer E. Rowland is a most public-spirited citizen who ever has the interest of the community at heart, and he is also numbered among the substantial farmers of Huron county owning and operating a tract of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, in Clarksfield township. This farm was located by this paternal grandfather, Aaron Rowland, in 1818, he having removed to this place from Connecticut. When he settled here, this district was all wild and unimproved and much of the land was still in possession of the Indians and wild game of all kinds was abundant. He possessed a sturdy character and with energy and determination at once began to develop and improve his farm.

Daniel Rowland, the father of our subject, was reared to farm life and after reaching years of maturity, wedded Miss Harriet Chaffee. They reared a family of four children, one son and three daughters, the sisters of our subject being: Emma, who died March 30, 1853, aged two years and seven days; Celia, now the wife of Dorr Twaddle, a resident of Clarksfield township; and Carrie, who died November 18, 1870, aged eleven years, ten month and twenty-four days. Eventually the father came into possession of the old home farm and through many years was identified with its cultivation. Like his father, he took a very prominent part in community affairs and the early development and progress of Clarksfield township is due in large measure to their efforts. Daniel Rowland departed this life September 24, 1881, and he was survived by his wife but a few years, her death occurring on the 1st of June, 1889.

Elmer E. Rowland was born on the farm which is still his home, March 20, 1854, and was early trained to the duties that usually fall to the lot of the farm lad. In the winter months, he attended the district schools and later spent two years in study at Oberlin College. He then returned home and to the present time has given his time and attention to general farming and stock raising, his tract consisting of one hundred and twenty-eight acres. The land is rich and arable, and the place is supplied with substantial buildings, everything being kept in the best repair.

Mr. Rowland has been married twice. He first established a home of his own by his marriage on the 25th of October, 1877, to Miss Eva Lee, a daughter of



MR. AND MRS. DANIEL ROWLAND

John and Sarah (Rood) Lee. To them were born two sons, Ray and Ralph. Both sons are married, the former making his home in Clarksfield township, while the latter is engaged in business in Wellington. After a happy married life of twenty-three years, the wife and mother was called to her final rest, her death occurring June 2, 1900. For his second wife Mr. Rowland chose Miss Theresa J. Woodruff, whom he wedded October 29, 1902. She is a daughter of Joel and Lavina (Stout) Woodruff, and by her marriage has become the mother of a little daughter, Ruth May, born August 2, 1906.

A republican in politics, Mr. Rowland takes a deep and active interest in all public affairs. For one term he served as justice of the peace, while for a number of years he has served on the township board of education and for some time was president of the board. He is especially interested in good schools that his children and those of his neighbors may receive the best possible instruction to fit them for the responsibilities of life. His record in public service has ever been one of unremitting and tireless toil, while his farming interests are also carried on with a determination and persistency of purpose that has led to well merited success.

JOHN A. LEE.

John A. Lee, a progressive and enterprising farmer of Clarksfield township, is also extensively engaged in the raising and feeding of stock. He was born in Camden township, Lorain county, Ohio, on the 27th of February, 1861, his parents being John P. and Sarah J. (Rood) Lee, both natives of the state of New York. About the year 1833 they were brought to this state by their respective parents, the Lees settling in Lorain county, while the Rood family located in Stark county. The paternal grandfather of our subject was among the earliest settlers in Camden township, Lorain county, where he took up his abode when the district was largely a dense forest in which wild game abounded. He was a farmer by occupation and as such his labors proved an important element in the pioneer development and upbuilding of the community, so that he became widely recognized as a most prominent and valued citizen. John P. Lee, the father of the gentleman whose name introduces this review, also followed carpentering throughout his active business career.

John A. Lee obtained his education in the district schools of his native county and spent his youthful days on his father's farm, assisting the latter in the work of the fields. He was married when a young man of twenty-two years and, starting out as an agriculturist on his own account, has since devoted his attention to general farming and stock-raising interests with excellent success. He raises and feeds stock on quite an extensive scale and this branch of his business adds not a little to his annual income. His farm comprises ninety-six acres of well improved and valuable land in Clarksfield township, and his wife owns a tract of fifty-four acres adjoining.

Mr. Lee has been married twice. On the 19th of March, 1883, he wedded Miss Sarah E. Barnes, a daughter of Alonzo and Lucretia (Granger) Barnes, by whom he had two sons, Walter B. and Clyde M. The wife and mother was

called to her final rest in May, 1900, and in December, 1903, Mr. Lee was again married, his second union being with Miss Rose A. Phillips, a daughter of William and Ellen (St. Clair) Phillips.

In his political views Mr. Lee is a stalwart republican and takes an active and helpful interest in all matters pertaining to the public welfare. He has served as a member of the township school board and for several terms capably discharged the duties devolving upon him in the office of township trustee. He is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church and exemplifies its teachings in his daily life. He has always lived in this part of the state and is well known and highly esteemed as one of the prosperous and representative citizens of his community.

NULAND W. LEE.

Nuland W. Lee, a brother of John A. Lee, successfully carries on general farming and stock-raising on his place of one hundred and sixteen acres in Clarksfield township. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Huron county, his birth having occurred in Clarksfield township on the 7th of July, 1866. In early manhood he learned the bricklayer's trade and followed that occupation for some time in Lorain, Erie and Sandusky counties. In 1899, however, he abandoned this line of activity and turned his attention to the work of farming, which has since claimed his time and energies. He now owns and operates a rich and productive tract of land of one hundred and sixteen acres in Clarksfield township and also devotes considerable attention to the raising of stock, handling sheep on an extensive scale.

On the 26th of November, 1892, Mr. Lee was united in marriage to Miss Rosa M. Twaddle, a daughter of William and Sabra A. (Pixley) Twaddle. They now have two sons, Ira W., and Harry R.

Mr. Lee gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and has been a member of the school board for a number of years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. He is serving as trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is also a faithful and consistent member and they take an active and helpful part in both church and Sunday-school work. They have an extensive circle of friends throughout the community in which they have now long resided and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended to them.

HENRY C. GODFRED.

Henry C. Godfred, who devotes his time and energies to the work of general farming, is the owner of a rich and productive tract of land of eighty-three acres in Bronson township. He was born in that township on the 27th of March, 1872, his parents being Charles and Elizabeth (Brandt) Godfred, the former a native

of Germany. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Charles Godfred were born the following children: Henry C., Frank, Ralph, Louisa and Laura. A sketch of the father appears on another page of this volume.

Henry C. Godfred was reared to farm life, thus early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. On reaching man's estate he chose farming as a life work and now owns and operates a tract of eighty-three acres in Bronson township, upon which place he has made his home for the past nine years. Alert, enterprising and energetic, he is meeting with a well merited measure of success in the conduct of his agricultural interests and is recognized as a progressive and substantial citizen of the community.

In February, 1897, Mr. Godfred was united in marriage to Miss Alice E. Bowersox, a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Bowersox. Mr. and Mrs. Bowersox reared a family of six children, as follows: Alice E., Della, Sophia, Amanda, Hattie and May. Unto our subject and his wife have been born three children: Esther F., Willard H. and Dorothea E.

Mr. Godfred gives his political allegiance to the republican party, having firm faith in its principles and policy. Well known in the county where he has resided from his birth to the present time, he has a wide acquaintance here and has won uniform trust and good will by reason of a life which in all of its phases has been straightforward and honorable.

HENRY C. BARNARD.

Henry C. Barnard, owning and operating forty acres of good land in Lyme township, is well known in this section for the prominent part he has played in local affairs. He is the son of Calvin and Mary (Nims) Barnard, and was born on the farm which is his home today, on the 19th of November, 1841. The father was born at Shelborn, Franklin county, Massachusetts, August 4, 1805, and came to Ohio in 1828, locating first at Elyria, where he helped to build the first courthouse, for he was a carpenter by trade. When he came to Lyme township, shortly before 1835 he assisted in the building of the Lyme Congregational church, which is one of the oldest edifices of its kind in the state, so that by his business, if by nothing else, Calvin Barnard was connected with the early history of Ohio. On the occasion of his first marriage his bride was Miss Hulda Stebbins Cooley, of Elyria, to whom he was united on the 9th of August, 1831. She bore him two children: Betsy Ann, who was born January 16, 1833, and died in the spring of 1887; and Elihu C., born August 8, 1835, who now lives at Whitewater, Wisconsin. The first wife died September 29, 1838, and on the 16th of May, 1839, Calvin Barnard married Miss Mary Nims, by whom he had three children: Henry C., of this review; Luther, born June 20, 1844, now a resident of Decatur, Illinois; and Herman F., who was born May 15, 1848, and died sixty years later, on January 16, 1908. Mrs. Barnard died December 14, 1864 when more than fifty-three years of age, having been born in April, 1811. Mr. Barnard was a conscientious member of the Congregational church, active in all its affairs and work, and superintendent of its Sunday school for years. In the years immediately pre-

ceding the Civil war he took a prominent part in the anti-slavery agitations and was glad to be able to send three sons to the war to fight for the Union. In January, 1879, his earthly course was run and he was given release from earth's cares.

Henry C. Barnard has always lived on his present farm, which his father had purchased in 1834, except during the years he was at school and while he was in the army. In the district institutions of instruction he received his early education, later attending a select school in Medina county, where his brother was engaged as a teacher. At one of the first calls for men during the Civil war he enlisted in Company G. One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at the school house in Lyme township, and during three years took honorable part in many battles and skirmishes. At the battle of Winchester he was captured and lay in prison at Belle Isle and at Libby, for about a month, when he was exchanged. He served through the whole campaign of Petersburg, and in the first battle at Winchester, Virginia, he was wounded so severely that he had to remain in the hospital for four months. On June 12, 1865, he was discharged at Camp Chase, whence he returned home and engaged in farming, which he has pursued ever since.

Mr. Barnard has been married twice. He chose for his first wife Miss Sophia Carr, a daughter of Samuel Carr, to whom he was married November 22, 1864, while he was home on a furlough. Of this union there were two children born: Mary S., the wife of James Tice and the mother of one child, Ruth; and Jennie C., who is married to Walter Bliss, the superintendent of schools at Bienssville, Louisiana, and is the mother of three children, Mary, Margaret and Henry B. Mrs. Barnard died April 19, 1898, at the age of fifty-four, and October 5, 1905, Mr. Barnard married Miss Alice Rushton, daughter of Henry C. and Mary (Avery) Rushton.

Mr. Barnard is closely identified with many local affairs. For a number of years he has served as township trustee, and by the republican voters of the county was elected county commissioner, to serve from January 1, 1893, to September, 1899. He is a deacon in the Congregational church and is superintendent of the Sunday school. As a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, he revives the memories of the days of fighting, oftentimes rehearsing the tales of a notable brave act, and he is a man of many excellent traits of character that have won for him the admiration and confidence of all with whom he comes into contact.

F. H. LANING.

F. H. Laning, capably and effectively filling the position of postmaster in Norwalk, was born near New London, in this county, October 7, 1876, a son of J. F. Laning. At the usual age he entered the public schools, passing through consecutive grades until he had completed the course in the Norwalk high school by his graduation with the class of 1894. He next entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, attending that institution for three years, or until 1897. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war his patriotic spirit was aroused

and he offered his services to the government, enlisting as sergeant major of the Fifth Infantry, on the 26th of April, 1898. He continued with his regiment until mustered out on the 11th of November, 1898, and afterward remained with the Ohio National Guard as battalion adjutant in the Fifth Regiment for one year. Prior to the war he had been interested in military affairs in connection with the National Guard, and on the 20th of June, 1907, he was elected captain of Company G, of the Fifth Infantry.

At the close of his connection with the National Guard, Mr. Laning returned to Norwalk and entered the employ of the Laning Company as secretary. To this position he brought the enterprise and energy of young manhood, concentrating his efforts upon the upbuilding of the business. He has always been active in public affairs and has done not a little to shape the political history of Norwalk in recent years. In November, 1903, he was elected a member of the city council and continued to serve until January, 1905, when he resigned to accept the position of postmaster of Norwalk. This position he now fills, having been reappointed on the 26th of January, 1909, so that his incumbency will continue until 1913. In the office he is proving most capable, discharging his duties with the same business-like dispatch that characterized his connection with the Laning Company. He has carefully systematized the work of the office and his promptness and accuracy well entitled him to reappointment. Moreover he is a popular official, being always courteous and obliging.

On the 21st of December, 1899, Mr. Laning was married to Miss Myrtelle Lapham, a native of Akron, Ohio, who died on the 1st of November, 1904. They had one son, Paul F., whose birth occurred October 24, 1900. In his fraternal relations Mr. Laning is a prominent Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also connected with the Knights of the Macabees, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and other organizations of which he is an exemplary representative, being in hearty sympathy with the beneficent principles which underlie those societies. He is very widely known in this county where his entire life has been passed, and the fact that his record has always been an honorable and commendable one is indicated in the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

M. R. COLEMAN.

M. R. Coleman, who is conducting a large warehouse in New London and is also operating a flax mill which is proving a profitable industry, was born in New London township, September 26, 1850. His father, Philip Y. Coleman, was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1816, and in 1843 came to New London township with his wife, Sarah Coleman, whom he married in New York. He settled a mile and a half east of New London on a tract of land of one hundred and eighty acres; of which only six acres had been cleared, and there he gave his time and attention to the further development and improvement of the property save for the period of his service in the Civil war when he became a member of the Twelfth

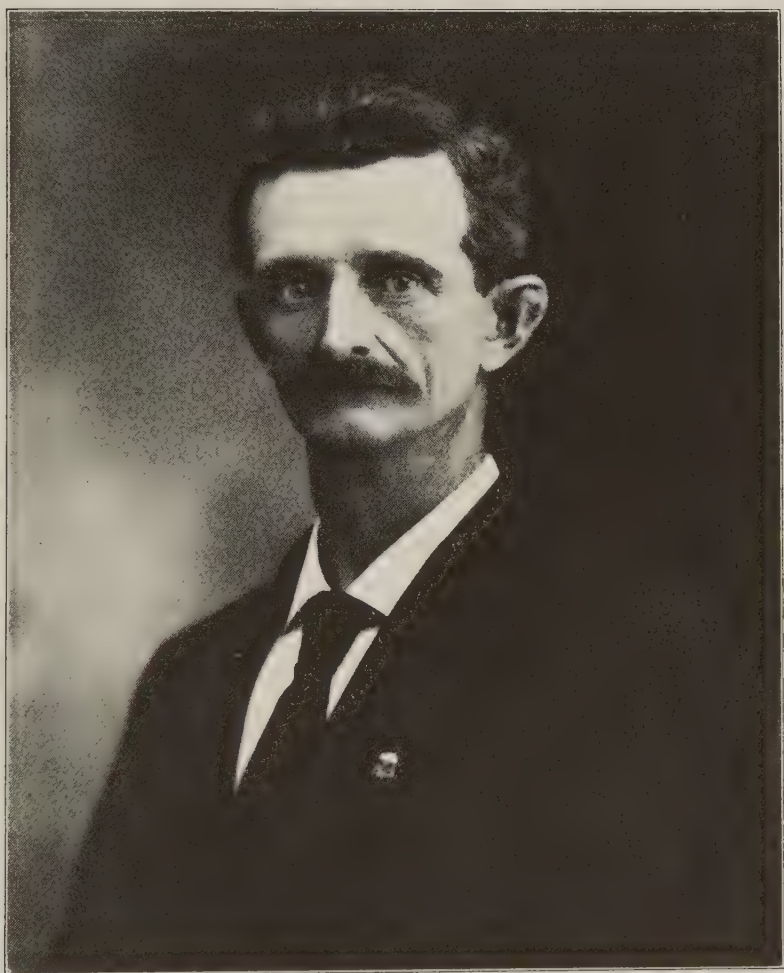
Ohio Battery and did active duty at the front. He died in 1895, while the death of Mrs. Coleman occurred in 1897.

M. R. Coleman gained his additional understanding of reading, mathematics, arithmetic, grammar and other studies in the country schools near his father's home and later continued his education in the New London public schools. He afterward engaged in farming on the old homestead and as the years passed worked in the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn. In 1880 he began buying and shipping hay, thinking to find it a profitable field of labor and in this opinion he was not mistaken. In 1904 he came to New London and has since conducted a growing business, having an extensive warehouse in which he handles coal, grain, lime, cement, et cetera. He still owns his farm from which he derives a good rental and he likewise operates a flax mill where he manufactures flax into upholstering tow. This is proving a profitable undertaking and his business interests in the different cases are bringing to him well merited and substantial success. For the past five years he has also been a director in the New London National Bank.

In his political views Mr. Coleman is an earnest republican, giving unfaltering support to the principles of the party and while he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, in 1890, he was elected real estate appraiser for the township. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, becoming a charter member of Carnation Lodge, No. 734, in which he has filled all the chairs. He is diligent and enterprising, progressive and prosperous.

CHARLES J. HEYMAN.

Charles J. Heyman, a well-to-do farmer of Sherman township, is the owner of one hundred and twenty-eight acres of land, in two farms, part of which lies in Lyme township. He was born in the latter township, October 18, 1852, and is the son of George W. and Kathryn (Moore) Heyman, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to this county with his parents, George and Margaret Heyman, in 1848, and settled at Hunts Corners, where they purchased about one hundred acres of land. Their home there was an old frame building situated where the church now stands and in this house both grandparents passed away. George W. Heyman later removed to Sherman township, where he bought land extensively, until at one time he was possessed of upwards of six hundred acres. He was a farmer all his life and a man of considerable local prominence, for he served as trustee of Sherman township and was active and influential in the Reformed church from its inception, assisting in the establishment of that body, and for many years serving as deacon. His wife came with her parents from Germany to Sherman township, but was not permitted to enjoy many years' companionship with her husband, for she died in 1854, leaving Charles J., a small child. Mr. Heyman survived her for half a century lacking one year and was again married, his second wife being Miss Elizabeth Longscheid, who bore him ten children: George, deceased; Emeline, the wife of August Schied, of Peru township; Daniel and Thomas, both of Lyme township; Mary and Philip, deceased; Jacob,



C. J. HEYMAN

of Sherman township; Mary, deceased; William C., of Lyme township; and Albert, of Sherman township.

Charles J. Heyman has been a life long resident of this county. He acquired his fundamental education in the district schools here, and also attended for one winter the German school in Sandusky. Farming has been his occupation during his entire life, from the time he was able to help around the home. In 1881 he bought his present farm from Hiram Latham and on it has since made his home. However, he has greatly improved the place during the years that it has been in his possession, and it is a fine tract of land well adapted to the line of general farming that he carries on there.

On the 22d of February, 1876, Mr. Heyman was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Scheid. She was born in Peru township, the daughter of William and Kathryn (Beilstein) Scheid, and is the sister to August and William Scheid, whose sketches will be found elsewhere in this volume. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Heyman, all of whom are living: August, George, Lydia, Elmer, Mary and Anna. The family attend the Reformed church at Hunts Corners, in which Mr. Heyman has held various offices for years. A practical and successful farmer, he is also a man of public spirit who has not refused to give his time for the good of the community he serves. He has entered somewhat into politics and at one time acted as trustee of his township, as a choice of the democratic voters. The period of his incumbency of the office was marked by good judgment and uprightness and afforded additional reason for the respect in which he is held here.

JOHN J. ANDREWS.

John J. Andrews, who since 1901 has lived retired in a beautiful home situated in the suburbs of the village of Wakeman, was formerly for many years actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Clarksfield township. He was born in New York city, on the 10th of August, 1833, his parents being Thomas and Maria (Goodheart) Andrews. His maternal great-grandfather, John Goodheart, served as a soldier in the British army and after leaving England came to America, making his home in this country until the time of his demise. He lived to be more than one hundred years of age. Thomas Andrews, the father of John J. Andrews, was a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in early manhood removed to New York city, where he followed his trade of shoemaking. He was married in the eastern metropolis to Miss Maria Goodheart, by whom he had nine children, two of whom still survive, John J. and Elizabeth.

John J. Andrews obtained his education in the schools of his native city and also of Philadelphia, living with an uncle in the latter city. When eleven years of age he went to a farm in Orange county, New York, where he attended the country schools and remained until he had attained the age of fifteen. He learned the trade of a brass finisher but only worked at that occupation for two years. Subsequently he entered the employ of a large cooperage company in New York city, with which he was connected for a period of twenty-six years, his long retention in the service of the concern being unmistakable evidence of his efficiency

and trustworthiness. In 1872 he established his home in Clarksfield township, Huron county, Ohio, and turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he was also engaged in dairying to some extent, both branches of his business returning to him a gratifying annual income. In 1901, having accumulated a comfortable competence, he left the farm and took up his abode in the suburbs of Wakeman, where he owns an attractive and commodious residence.

On the 16th of July, 1856, Mr. Andrews was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Ann Alsdorf, her parents being Hiram and Ann (Vandermark) Alsdorf, who were natives of Ulster county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews have reared a family of five children, namely: Anna, the widow of Alfred Newhall; Jesse L., who follows farming in Clarksfield township; Sarah, the wife of Amos Scott, of Norwalk township; Thomas G., who is engaged in the mining business in British Columbia; and Dora, who conducts a millinery establishment in Wakeman.

Mr. Andrews gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and, though not active in its ranks, is an intelligent and valued advocate of its principles. He has served his fellow townsmen in the position of road supervisor and also as a member of the board of education, believing that improved highways and good schools are important factors in the growth and upbuilding of a community. His aid and cooperation can always be counted upon to further any movement instituted to advance the general welfare and he is widely recognized as a most progressive and public-spirited citizen. His fraternal relations are with the Masons and he is a worthy exemplar of the craft. He finds his chief source of recreation and enjoyment in fishing and indulges his love of this sport at the expense of the finny tribe, who bask in the waters of the Vermillion river, which flows by Wakeman. A congenial and courteous gentleman, he has a host of warm friends, and never lacks companions on his fishing jaunts. Both he and his wife are widely and favorably known throughout the community where they have now long resided and their home is noted for its genuine hospitality and good cheer. Mr. Andrews has now passed the seventy-sixth milestone on life's journey and can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear, knowing that his career has been an honorable and useful one.

CHARLES A. STOWER.

Charles A. Stower follows farming in Lyme township, Huron county, where he owns ninety-three acres of land, upon which he has made his home for a long period. He was born in this township, December 21, 1871, the son of Thomas and Emma (Dolling) Stowers, who were old settlers in this part of the state. Both parents were born and reared in England, where they were married and where the most of their children were born. In 1870 they came to this country, locating in Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio, where they engaged in farming. At first they rented a tract of land, but in the spring of 1879 they purchased the farm on which Charles A. Stower now lives. When they took possession the land was in a comparatively rough state, but when death called them,

the father at the age of seventy-three and the mother at the age of seventy, the farm showed the result of their long and arduous toil. They had improved it greatly and had increased its productive power, besides erecting several buildings that were a credit to them. Mr. and Mrs. Stower were blessed with a family of ten children. Sabina, the eldest, now deceased, married Robert Rope; John is also deceased; Susie married William White, a farmer of Lyme township; Robert and James were followed by Samuel and William, both of whom have died; Alexander was the next of the family; Anna married Allen Farr; and Charles A., the subject of this sketch, was the youngest and the only one of the family born in this country.

Charles A. Stower has lived all his life in Lyme township and has devoted his entire time to farming. From the district schools he received his fundamental education, which coupled with the training he received at home constituted his preparation for life. During his boyhood days he worked on the home place under the guidance of his father, thus acquiring a practical experience in farming which was to be his vocation in later years when he was called upon to conduct his own establishment. The years passed quickly and in the main uneventfully, though bringing with them their recompense for hard toil.

On the 10th of November, 1897, Mr. Stower was united in marriage to Miss Alice Maud Sherman, the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Farr) Sherman. The parents were both natives of England, though the father was only six years old when he came to this country, and they were among those early settlers who have contributed by their efforts to the development of this part of the country. Seven children were born to them: Elizabeth, Maud, Jennie, Mollie, Gertrude, William and Josephine, all of whom are living useful lives. Mr. and Mrs. Stower have three children: Clarence, born March 22, 1899; Gordon, born August 26, 1902, and Bertha, born March 7, 1905. The family are all members of the Lyme Episcopal church and take active part in its religious and social work.

Mr. Stower is one of the prosperous young farmers of his locality. He has not specialized in his cultivation of the soil but has given his attention to a variety of crops which have well repaid him for his diligent labor. Good fortune has attended his efforts and he has been enabled to add considerably to the improvements his parents made upon the land. He is a man respected and honored in the community and has the good will of those with whom he comes in contact.

CLAYTON E. TUCKER.

Huron county has been signally favored in the class of men who have occupied its offices, for the great majority of them have been loyal to the best interests of the community and have manifested marked ability in discharging the duties that have devolved upon them. Of this class Clayton E. Tucker is a representative. For six years he capably served as deputy probate judge of the county and in November, 1908, was elected clerk of the court, his term beginning in August, 1909. At the present time, however, he is filling out the unexpired term of Frank E. Miller and his experience is well qualifying him for continuance in the position

to which he has been called by popular suffrage. One of the county's native sons, his birth occurred near Fitchville, on the 22d of September, 1873. His father, Edgar L. Tucker, was born at Miles Strip, Onondaga county, New York, on the 1st of March, 1847, while the mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary L. Clark, was a native of Lorain county, Ohio. It was in the year 1870 that Edgar L. Tucker removed to Huron county, establishing his home in Fitchville, where he engaged in the butter and creamery business for twenty-seven years. He then turned his attention to general merchandising in West Clarksfield, where he still continued in business, being one of the enterprising representatives of trade relations in that locality.

Clayton E. Tucker pursued his education in the schools of Fitchville, being graduated from the high school with the class of 1892. He then further continued his studies in the Fostoria Academy, from which he graduated in 1894. He afterward engaged in teaching school in the county for five years, or until appointed deputy clerk under C. D. Miles, in which capacity he remained until 1902 when he entered the probate office, there remaining until November, 1908. At the election held at that time he was elected to the office of clerk of the court, that office being left vacant by reason of the unexpired term of Frank E. Miller. He was appointed to the position and at the ensuing election, was chosen for the office, his elective term to begin in August, 1909. He has ever been an active republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but in the discharge of his duties he never allows partisanship to interfere, being thoroughly just and unbiassed as well as accurate and reliable.

On the 3d of May, 1903, Mr. Tucker was united in marriage to Miss Gertha Dowler, and they have one son, Edgar, who was born April 1, 1904. Mr. Tucker belongs to the junior order of American Mechanics, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while his religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Baptist church. In his manner he is unassuming and in his work is efficient, while his many good qualities and social disposition have made him popular with a host of warm friends.

ROSWELL DERBY, SR.

Roswell Derby, Sr., a prominent and well known citizen of Wakeman township, was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego county, New York, on the 16th of August, 1823, his parents being David and Susan (Dutcher) Derby. Both his paternal and maternal grandfathers, David Derby and Cornelius Dutcher, participated in the struggle for American independence as soldiers in the Revolutionary army. David Derby, the father of Roswell Derby, who was a machinist by trade, invented the first wool carding machine ever operated in the United States. It was in almost universal use in the woolen mills of this country until about 1830. David Derby passed away in 1835, having for but one year survived his wife, who was called to her final rest in 1834. Their remains were interred in a cemetery at Cherry Valley, New York.

Roswell Derby attended the public schools of his native town until twelve years of age, when, his father having died, he went to live with his brother Morgan, a blacksmith of Cherry Valley. He there worked at the blacksmith's trade under the direction of his brother, with whom he remained until he had attained the age of fifteen years, when he went to Persia, New York, where he made his home with his brother David, who was also a blacksmith by trade. He completed his apprenticeship under the latter's direction and remained in Persia until twenty years of age. During this period he had also gained a practical knowledge of the carpenter's and joiner's trade, at which he worked in the summer months, while in the winter seasons he gave his attention to blacksmithing. In the spring of 1844, he made his way to Ohio, arriving at Cleveland on the 18th of May. He remained in the vicinity of Cleveland during the summer of 1844, being employed at farm labor, and in the fall of that year he went to Newbury, Geauga county, Ohio, where he was engaged in the blacksmithing business in association with his brother John until February, 1845. At that time he removed to Springfield, this state, and purchased a tract of eighty acres of timber land, which he began clearing for farming purposes. During the first summer he cleared ten acres, which he sowed in wheat. The entire region was practically a wilderness and was sparsely settled, there being not more than thirty voters in the entire township. The county seat had been established at Bryan, where a log courthouse was erected. The locality was a most unhealthy one and Mr. Derby fell a victim to the ague but recovered in time to take charge of a school for the winter term. In the spring of 1846 he went to Lenawee county, Michigan, entering the employ of a Mr. Smith, who operated a distillery. He received a salary of fifty dollars per month, which was considered good pay in those early days and remained with Mr. Smith until the fall of 1846, when he was again stricken with ague and fever. After recovering from his illness he went to Adrian and became agent for what was then known as the Michigan Southern Railroad Company, receiving a monthly remuneration of seventy-five dollars for his services. His health again failing, in the fall of 1846 he returned to his home at Cherry Valley, New York, where he remained until the fall of the following year, devoting his time and energies to the work of farming. It was in the fall of 1847 that he returned to Cleveland, Ohio, and became connected with the butchering business, engaging in the sale of meats. Shortly afterward he went to Michigan for a time and in 1848 came to Hartland township, Huron county, Ohio, here first working at the blacksmith's trade and later at carpentering. At times he was employed at farm labor by the day and also at other pursuits, proving a capable man in many ways. In 1849 he went to Townsend Center, Huron county, where he opened a blacksmith shop, purchased property and erected a home. He was married in that year and then removed with his wife to Canandaigua, Michigan, where he worked at blacksmithing for a short time. Returning to Townsend township, this county, he was here engaged in blacksmithing until 1863, when he went to Fulton county, Ohio, there purchasing a tract of land and devoting his attention to general agricultural pursuits until 1883. In that year he returned to Wakeman, Huron county, and has here since resided, working at various occupations. He was engaged in the coal business for a time and also conducted a mercantile establishment in association with his sons. Possessing a liberal education and being well read in the law,

he was also for a number of years engaged in practice in partnership with his son, Roswell Derby, Jr., who is a lawyer by profession. Mr. Derby of this review has continued his legal practice to the present time and is widely recognized as a sound and safe counselor.

On the 27th of June, 1849, Mr. Derby was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Ann Whitcomb, a daughter of Hiram and Hannah (Butler) Whitcomb. Her paternal grandfather, Thomas Whitcomb, participated in the Revolutionary war, serving as what was known as a "cowboy." Hiram Whitcomb, the father of Mrs. Derby, came to this county from Herkimer county, New York, about 1842 and became identified with agricultural pursuits in Townsend township. At the time of his arrival here this district was practically a wilderness but he resolutely set to work, cut down the trees, grubbed up the stumps and soon had his land ready for cultivation. He became widely recognized as a prominent and prosperous citizen and will long be remembered as one of the worthy pioneer settlers whose labors contributed in substantial measure to the early development and improvement of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Derby have reared a family of six children, namely: Hiram W., a resident of Cincinnati, who is in the employ of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad Company; Muriel, the wife of Elmer S. Hart, of Elkhart, Indiana; Roswell, Jr., now living in Milan, Ohio; Frank, of Fulton county, Ohio; and Joel E. and Darwin A., both of whom reside in Florence, Erie county, Ohio. The parents of these children have now traveled life's journey together for six decades, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years have gone by.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Derby has cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democracy but, though keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, has not been active in politics as an office seeker. For one term he acted as justice of the peace in Wakeman township and also served as a member of the board of education, the cause of public instruction ever finding in him a stalwart champion. He has now passed the eighty-sixth milestone on life's journey and receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one who has traveled thus far on this earthly pilgrimage and whose career has at all times been upright and honorable.

JOHN J. DIDION.

John J. Didion, who owns an excellent farm of eighty-one and a half acres in Sherman township, dates his residence in that township since 1852. He was born in Germany on the 23d of December, 1833, his parents being John and Sophia (Bashob) Didion. The paternal grandfather, Gottlieb Didion, spent his entire life in the fatherland. John Didion, Sr., the father of our subject, was a wagon-maker by trade and followed that occupation while a resident of Germany but after coming to this country devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits. It was in 1852 that he brought his wife and children to the United States, the family home being established in Sherman township, Huron county, Ohio, where both he and his wife remained until called to their final rest. They were people of



MR. AND MRS. JOHN J. DIDION

genuine personal worth and unfaltering integrity, whose upright and honorable lives won for them the respect and esteem of all with whom they came in contact. Their children were five in number, namely: Peter; John J., of this review; Barbara, the widow of Frank Koenig; Christopher; and Martin.

John J. Didion obtained his education in the schools of his native land and after putting aside his text-books assisted his father in the wagon shop. Subsequent to his arrival in this country he worked for a time at the carpenter's trade but afterward secured employment by the month as a farm hand and has since been identified with agricultural interests. When his well directed and untiring labor had brought him sufficient capital, he purchased a farm of his own and is now in possession of a tract of land comprising eighty-one and a half acres, which annually returns to him a gratifying income. Throughout the years he has successfully and energetically carried on the work of the fields and has long been numbered among the substantial, enterprising and representative citizens of the community.

On the 6th of February, 1866, Mr. Didion was united in marriage to Miss Rosella Herman, a daughter of Paul and Mary Herman, who were natives of Germany but became early settlers of Seneca county, Ohio, where they passed away. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Didion have been born sixteen children, as follows: Mary; John and Frank, twins; Charles; August; Martin and Sophia, twins; Elizabeth; Rosa; Cecelia; Susan; Henry; Andrew; William; and two who died in infancy. Of those living all are married with the exception of two, and Mr. and Mrs. Didion now have thirty-five grandchildren.

In his political views Mr. Didion is a staunch democrat, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church, of which the other members of his family are also faithful communicants. He has a very extensive and favorable acquaintance throughout the community where he has now resided for fifty-seven years, and in this land, where labor is unhampered by caste or class, has met with a goodly measure of success in his undertakings. He has now passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey and his has been a commendable record, actuated by honorable principles.

NORMAN S. CARTWRIGHT.

Norman S. Cartwright is the owner of an excellent farm of fifty acres in Bronson township, the attractive appearance of which indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods. He was born in Norwalk township, this county, October 23, 1846. The branch of the Cartwright family to which he belongs traces its ancestry back to Colonel Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary war fame. The family has an excellent military record. The great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary war, while the grandfather, Orin Cartwright, defended American interests against the English in the war of 1812. Mr. Cartwright of this review was a soldier in the Civil war, while his son Oliver donned the nation's uniform for active service in the Spanish-American war. The grandparents of our subject were Orin and Lydia (Hunter) Cartwright, both of whom were na-

tives of Vermont and of English descent. They went to that state with their son, Milo Cartwright, the father of our subject, who was born in the state of New York in 1815 and came to Ohio in 1832. He settled in Norwalk township and became one of the pioneer residents of Huron county, manifesting an active and helpful interest in the work of public progress as the years went by. About forty years ago he removed to Bronson township, where the family has since been represented. He married Susan De Forest, who was born in the state of New York in 1812. They were married in the east when very young, being only about fifteen years of age. Their children were: Elizabeth, Jane, Charles, Lora, David, Mary, Cornelia, Norman and Emily. The mother, Mrs. Susan Cartwright, was a daughter of Walter and Mary De Forest.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Norman S. Cartwright in his boyhood and youth. His educational opportunities were those afforded by the district schools, while in the work of the fields he was busily employed through the periods of vacation. Having arrived at years of maturity he was married on the 2d of July, 1878, to Miss Eva Thayer, who was born in 1852 and was a daughter of Oliver and Eliza (Waggoner) Thayer, who were of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright have become the parents of five children: Allen, Oliver, Bertie, Roy and Mabel.

Mr. Cartwright is a member of the Grand Army Post at Norwalk and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old comrades. He was for a year and a half a soldier of the One Hundred and First Ohio Infantry, being on duty with Company K. During that time he participated in several important battles and skirmishes and was ever loyal to his duty. He is equally faithful to his country in days of peace and in every public relation manifests marked devotion to the public good. He has been constable in his township and also has done active work in behalf of the cause of education, serving for fifteen or twenty years on the school board. He usually gives his support to the republican party but in local affairs frequently casts an independent ballot, giving his allegiance to the men whom he thinks best qualified for the office regardless of party affiliations. In his business life he is reliable as well as enterprising and is now engaged in carefully cultivating the farm of fifty acres, from which he annually gathers good harvests.

CHARLES W. HEYMAN.

Charles W. Heyman, an agriculturist of Lyme township, possessing ninety-three acres of land upon which he lives, was born in Huron county, February 14, 1867, the son of John and Sophia (Upperman) Heyman, who were widely known as early settlers here. Both parents were natives of Germany but came as young people to this country. The father, as a young man, came with two of his brothers and located in this county, where for several years they worked around for different farmers. After a short time, however, John Heyman felt the desire to possess land of his own and bought seventy-five acres near Hunts Corners. It was in an uncultivated state and he started in to clear it and make it ready for a home, for he had already chosen the woman whom he hoped would be his wife. In one

year's time the land was sufficiently cleared to permit of living upon it, and to it he brought his bride. The rougher work of preparing the soil for cultivation completed, Mr. Heyman set about improving the farm and adding to it such desirable sections as he was able, with the result that at his death he had a tract of about two hundred acres. He was a man prominent in the Reformed church of Hunts Corners and was among those by whose generosity the erection of the first edifice was made possible.

Charles W. Heyman was the fourth in a family of five children. Of his brothers and sisters, John and Mary, the two eldest, have passed away; Elizabeth is married to Charles Horn; and William is living with his mother on the old homestead. Charles Heyman has always lived in Lyme township, and in the district school received his elementary education. His practical training, however, was obtained under the wise guidance of his parents, who taught him the lesson of work and the value of character, besides initiating him into the secrets of the cultivation of the soil. He has been loyal to the occupation of his father and has never sought any other vocation than that of a farmer.

On the 19th of February, 1891, Mr. Heyman was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Haas, who was born in this county, in October, 1866, the daughter of Jacob and Kathryn Haas, who claimed Germany as the land of their birth. Mr. and Mrs. Heyman have four children: Amelia, Gertrude, Laura and Edgar, all of whom live at home.

The farm to which Mr. Heyman devotes all his time he received from his father, but during the period of his occupancy he has greatly improved it and increased its value. Up to the present he has not deemed it advisable to specialize in his business, but has followed general farming and has been successful beyond the average in the returns he has won from the fruitful soil. In religious matters Mr. Heyman gives his allegiance to the Lutheran church of this township. He also belongs to the German Aid Society of Bellevue and has ever evinced a strong interest in its work.

A. B. BOWEN.

A. B. Bowen, well known as an enterprising and progressive citizen of Norwalk, where he is now engaged in the general insurance business, has been the architect and builder of his own fortunes. Whatever success he has achieved is attributable entirely to his own labors. His birth occurred in Fairfield township, Huron county, on the 14th of February, 1862. His father, William Bowen, was a native of Tompkins county, New York, and when a lad of twelve years came to Huron county, Ohio, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Bowen, Sr. The family home was established in Fairfield township upon a farm, the grandfather becoming one of the early agriculturists of the community. William Bowen, the father of our subject, was there reared to agricultural life and continued in the same department of activity, being numbered among the representative farmers of Fairfield township until he was called to his final rest in 1891 when seventy-four years of age. His wife survived him for a long period,

passing away on the 21st of March, 1909, when eighty-six years of age. There were three children in the family, two sons and a daughter, but Caroline died in 1902 and Hamilton passed away in August, 1908, leaving A. B. Bowen as the only surviving member of the family.

Reared on the home farm A. B. Bowen acquired his early education in the district schools and afterward had the advantage of two terms of instruction in Oberlin College. Subsequently he engaged in teaching school for ten years during the winter months. The summer months during that period were devoted to farm work and in 1893 he was called to public office through appointment to the position of deputy treasurer. His experience well qualified him for further responsibilities when, in 1897, he was elected county treasurer and served for two terms, his reelection coming to him in recognition of his faithfulness during the preceding years, and when he retired from office as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of the general public—and took up the insurance business, he formed a partnership with A. D. Sanders, his deputy in the treasurer's office. The firm has been very successful in this line, writing a large amount of insurance annually, and representing the standard companies of the country.

In 1882 Mr. Bowen was married to Miss Fannie Newbury, a native of Greenfield township, Huron county, and a daughter of Everland Newbury, who was also born in Greenfield township. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen now have one son, Harold, who was born on the 16th of April, 1893.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Bowen is connected with the Masons, attaining the Knight Templar degree in the commandery. His maternal grandfather, Samuel Terry, was a charter member of Fairfield Lodge, F. & A. M., in which Mr. Bowen also holds his membership. He is also associated with the Macca-bees, the Knights of Pythias and other orders, being in entire sympathy with their beneficent spirit and purposes. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Baptist church of North Fairfield, of which church his grandfather Bowen was a charter member. Well known in Norwalk, his sterling qualities are those of a progressive citizen, reliable business man and a faithful friend. In manner he is always genial and cordial, ever approachable and courteous, and wherever he goes he wins high regard and esteem.

ELBERT P. BEECHER.

Elbert P. Beecher, an enterprising and successful agriculturist and stock-raiser of Wakeman township, was born on the farm where he now resides, his natal day being June 2, 1855. His parents were Horace J. and Fanny M. (Pierce) Beecher. The paternal grandparents, Cyrus and Betsy (Bates) Beecher, came from Bridgewater, Connecticut, to this state in 1836 and took up their abode on a farm in Florence township, Erie county, the property being situated on the boundary line between Erie and Huron counties. This district was at that time still largely wild and undeveloped and the family shared in all of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. Cyrus Beecher, the grandfather of our subject, was a bridge carpenter in Connecticut but after coming to this state de-

voted his attention to the pursuit of farming. Horace J. Beecher, the father of Elbert P. Beecher, who was a little lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents on the journey to Ohio, gave his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. Subsequent to his marriage he came to Huron county, purchasing the farm on which his son, Elbert P., now resides. He was a firm and unfaltering republican and took an active part in local politics, serving as township trustee for several terms and also as township assessor for a similar period. A strong anti-slavery man, he assisted many a negro on his way to freedom in the north, his home being a station on the famous underground railroad. He was a man of strong convictions and sterling character and his upright and honorable career won for him the regard and esteem of all with whom he was associated. He died on the 10th of April, 1893, at the age of sixty-four years and six months, having for a number of years survived his wife, who was called to her final rest in May, 1876. Both lie buried in the Wakeman cemetery. Their union was blessed with five children, namely: Platt P., Elbert P., Julia A., Harriet A. and Jennie J., all of whom still survive with the exception of the eldest son.

Elbert P. Beecher was reared on his father's farm and obtained his preliminary education in the district schools of Wakeman township, while subsequently he attended the Wakeman high school and for a few terms also prosecuted his studies at Oberlin College. He was married when about twenty-five years of age, and established his home in the village of Wakeman, where he was successfully engaged in the conduct of a livery business until 1886. In that year he returned to the old home place on which he was born and reared and has here since carried on both farming and stock-raising with excellent success. The property is well improved and under a high state of cultivation, the well tilled fields annually yielding bounteous harvests of golden grain as a reward for the care and labor which is bestowed upon them.

On the 15th of February, 1880, Mr. Beecher was united in marriage to Miss Helen Josephine White, a daughter of Dr. H. E. and Roxanna (Denman) White, of Clarksfield, both of whom are now deceased. The father, a physician by profession, was for many years engaged in practice at Wakeman and Clarksfield and was widely recognized as a prominent and skillful representative of his calling. Both the White and Denman families were numbered among the worthy pioneer settlers of Huron county and took a leading and helpful part in the early improvement and upbuilding of this part of the state. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beecher have been born five children, as follows: Platt H.; Ethel, who is now the widow of Elbert French; Clara B., the wife of Charles Ginste, who follows farming in Wakeman township; Glen W.; and Elbert P., deceased.

In his political views Mr. Beecher is a staunch republican and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust. He has served as township constable for four years, as township assessor for five years and for about twenty years was a member of the district board of education. At the present time he is capably discharging the duties devolving upon him in the office of township trustee. He is a prominent and active worker in the local ranks of his party and has acted as a member of the township election board for some years, being connected therewith at the present

time. He has also been frequently sent as a delegate to county, district and state conventions and is widely recognized as a most loyal and public-spirited citizen whose influence is ever given on the side of right, progress, justice and improvement. He is a valued member of Wakeman Tent, No. 93, K. O. T. M., and Wakeman Grange, Patrons of Husbandry. Religiously, he and his family are identified with the Wakeman Congregational church, giving liberally of their time and means to both church and Sunday school. The different members of the Beecher family are prominent in the intellectual, social and business life of the community and hold a high place in public esteem.

EDWARD J. HARLAND.

Edward J. Harland, a prosperous farmer of the older generation in Clarksfield township, was born in Ontario county, New York, February 7, 1835, and is a son of William J. and Abigail (Blakeman) Harland, who came to Ohio in 1838 and settled on the farm their son now occupies. The father was a farmer but was also a man of fine education and before coming to this section had taught school and followed that profession during the first year of his residence here. His wife had also been a teacher in New York state, and the couple ever took a deep interest in the educational affairs of this county. Three children were born to them: James M., Edward J. and Mary E., all of whom are living. The eldest resides in California, and the daughter is now the widow of Lewis Blakeman, of Clinton, Michigan. Mr. Harland died in 1850, and his wife survived him thirty-four years, her death occurring in her eightieth year, on the 13th of July, 1884.

Edward J. Harland was but fifteen years old when his father died, and at that age assumed the management of the farm, which has been under his care and has been his home ever since. His has been a busy life from the day of his father's death and crowded with responsibilities which would have been heavy for a man many years his senior. His education was but imperfect and desultory, such as could be obtained from the district school during the few months it was in session and when affairs at home did not demand his time. At the outbreak of the Civil war his brother James M. enlisted in the Fifty-fifth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and at the battle of Gettysburg, while supporting a battery of artillery, his hearing was badly impaired, which resulted subsequently in his becoming totally deaf. Edward J. Harland remained devoted to the arts of peace and stayed at home to care for affairs there. Under his management his farm, of ninety-four acres of fine land, has prospered. It is under excellent cultivation and is highly improved as regards buildings and appurtenances. Of recent years, Mr. Harland, now in his seventy-fifth year, does little more than superintend the work done, but now and again for the sake of exercise and diversion rather than for any other reason, he will go into the fields and do a good day's work—one too that will put much younger men than he to their best efforts.

Mr. Harland has been twice married. On the 13th of January, 1863, he wedded Miss Sarah A. Case, a daughter of George E. and Philinda (Blackman) Case, of Clarksfield township. Of this union five children were born: William J., Jennie



E. J. HARLAND AND FAMILY

M., Frank E., Bertha B. and Raymond, of whom Bertha, now Mrs. B. McClaffin, of Clarksfield township, alone survives. Mrs. Harland died April 20, 1895, and on the 22d of June, 1900, Mr. Harland married Mrs. Mary J. Noble, who has also passed away, on October 2, 1906.

Mr. Harland has always been a republican and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont for president in 1856. He has ever been a man interested in public affairs and has kept posted on all important questions of national and local concern, so that he is able to discuss issues intelligently. He has never aspired to public office, however, and yet his interest and exertion in the general good would many a time have recommended him and secured him election if he had so desired. The strong traits of his character are not unknown nevertheless, and he is respected as a fine man, one above reproach in his private life and in his intercourse with his fellows.

HENRY BOEHLER.

Henry Boehler, who is numbered among the prominent and progressive representatives of agricultural pursuits of Lyme township, was born in Sherman township, this county, September 7, 1854. As the name indicates he comes of German lineage, his parents, Phillip and Marguerita (Seibel) Boehler, having both been natives of Germany. The former, who was born November 7, 1824, left the fatherland for America in 1848, coming direct to Huron county, Ohio, where he engaged as a farm hand in Peru township for about three years. At the expiration of that period he purchased land in Lyme township, which he later sold, subsequently buying a farm in Sherman township. After operating this land for some time he disposed of it and secured a farm in Peru township. He was a progressive and successful farmer and at the time of his death, which occurred May 3, 1897, in Monroeville, Ridgfield township, this county, he was the owner of considerable property. He had been twice married, his first union being with Miss Marguerita Seibel, a native of Germany, who was born April 1, 1831. After her death June 22, 1883, he wedded Miss Jennetta Knobler. By his first union he became the father of six children, namely: William, Henry, Phillip, Otto, Minnie and Louise, all of whom still survive.

Henry Boehler has always resided in this county and in his youthful days attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education. The periods of vacation were devoted to assisting his father in the work of the farm and thus he early gained practical experience that proved of value to him when, in 1877, he purchased his present farm from his father and started out in business on his own account. His home place, an excellent farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres, is situated in Lyme township and this and another property returns to him substantial annual profits. He has made all of the improvements upon the place, including the erection of a fine commodious residence and the farm is lacking in none of the equipments and accessories that go to make up a model property of the twentieth century. As he has prospered in his undertakings, he had added to his holdings from time to time and his success is indicated in the

fact that he is one of the heaviest tax-payers in the township. He owes his success primarily to his own industry and to the intelligent appreciation of his opportunities. He has ever been diligent, persevering and progressive and his example may well serve to encourage and inspire others, showing what may be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do.

On January 4, 1877, Mr. Boehler was united in marriage to Miss Louise Horn, a daughter of Phillip and Katherine (Seel) Horn, natives of Germany. This union has been blessed with four children: Sarah, the wife of William Komdorfer, of this township, by whom she has one son, Clarence; Albert, who married Matilda Schug and with his wife and son, Henry, resides in this township, and Clara and Emma, at home.

Mr. Boehler's religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Lutheran church, while in politics he is a staunch democrat. His fellow citizens, recognizing his ability and true worth, have elected him to office and for six years he served as township trustee, also township assessor and real-estate assessor. Many tangible evidences can be given of his devotion to the public welfare. His fellow townsmen speak of him as the most public-spirited citizen in the county and there has been no man as active in support of good roads. That his labors have been effective is shown in the fact that Lyme township has the best roads in the county and for this Mr. Boehler is directly responsible. His determined purpose enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes and in his labors for the public highways his methods have been practical, resultant and beneficial. He justly deserves to be accorded the foremost place among the citizens of his township for he is an aggressive business man, of keen discrimination, laboring to promote the general welfare as well as individual success. The cause of education has found in him a warm friend, his many sterling characteristics have won for him the esteem and regard of all with whom he has come in contact, while the success to which he has attained along agricultural lines entitles him to rank among the representative farmers of this county.

A. D. SANDERS.

A. D. Sanders is widely known in connection with insurance interests in Norwalk and is also an active factor in financial circles. His has been the progress which results from persistency of purpose and undaunted enterprise and the salient characteristics which he has always displayed in his business life have formed the foundation of a gratifying success and have won for him an honored name. He was born in Iola, Kansas, September 19, 1872.

His father, Charles M. Sanders, was a native of Peru, Huron county, Ohio, and on leaving this district became a resident of Illinois, where he remained for seven years. In the late '60s he went to Kansas, where he followed farming. He had previously engaged in teaching school in Illinois and in 1874 he returned to that state, where he remained through the succeeding five years. At the end of that time he once more became a resident of Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, where he gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits, bringing his fields

under a high state of cultivation and adding many modern accessories to his farm. In 1905, however, he retired from active life and removed to Norwalk, where he is now living in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He married Louise Morse, also a native of Peru township, where her father, John E. Morse, settled at a period when this section of the state was largely a pioneer district. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Sanders are two sons, the brother of our subject being Harry E., a resident farmer of this county.

In the district schools of Peru township A. D. Sanders acquired his early education and later attended the Norwalk high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1892. He also pursued a commercial course in Oberlin and for three years engaged in teaching school. He then turned his attention to mercantile interests, doing office work for various manufacturers, and in 1897 he was called to a position of public trust through his appointment as deputy treasurer. He served for five years in this capacity and in 1903 he engaged in the general insurance business in connection with A. B. Bowen. He has been closely associated with Mr. Bowen for fourteen years, first in the manufacturing business and then when Mr. Bowen became county treasurer Mr. Sanders was his deputy. At the expiration of the term of office they engaged in the insurance business and are now operating under the firm style of Bowen & Sanders. They write a large amount of insurance annually and the business of the firm has now reached extensive and profitable proportions. Mr. Sanders is also treasurer of the Home, Savings & Loan Company, having filled this position for a number of years and is likewise a trustee in the settlement of affairs of the Norwalk Savings Bank Company. His name is an honored one on commercial paper and his business rectitude stands as an unquestioned factor in his career.

On the 14th of October, 1903, Mr. Sanders was married to Miss Hettie Longwell, a native of Crawford county and a daughter of Asbury Longwell. They have two children: Ralph L., who was born October 10, 1904; and Martha L., born May 13, 1906. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sanders are members of the Universalist church and are interested and active in its work. He is now serving as church treasurer and as superintendent of the Sunday school. In politics he is an active and earnest republican and for the past six years has been the secretary of the McKinley Club. Fraternally he is connected with the Royal Arcanum and the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics. He is in hearty sympathy with progressive movements, manifesting in his life a patriotic citizenship that is most commendable. He has based his business principles and actions upon the rules which govern industry and strict, unswerving integrity, and the success which he has achieved is the direct result of his persistence and well directed labor.

C. B. WEEDMAN, M. D.

Dr. C. B. Weedman who since 1894 has continuously practiced medicine and surgery in New London, his ability winning him an extensive patronage throughout this part of the county, was born in Ashland county, Ohio, on the 28th of January, 1858. His father, George W. Weedman, was also a native of Ashland

county, while the grandfather was of German birth. Leaving the land of his nativity in early life he crossed the ocean to the new world and became a resident of Ashland county, Ohio, where amid pioneer surroundings he lived for some years. His son, George Weedman, was there educated and, determining upon a professional career, he took up the study of medicine, practicing continuously for forty years, maintaining his office at Nova, Ohio, where he died September 5, 1890. He was a republican in his political views and a very public-spirited citizen who sought ever the best interests of the community. He married Sophronia Richards, who was born at Orange, Ashland county, and to them were born two children, C. B. and Eliza.

The public-school system of his native county afforded Dr. C. B. Weedman his early educational privileges and he afterward attended the Berea Baldwin University. Whether environment, inherited tendency or natural predilection had most to do with his choice or profession it is impossible to determine, but at all events he resolved to follow in the professional footsteps of his father and studied medicine in the Western Reserve University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1880. He then entered into partnership with his father at Nova and they were associated in business for ten years, Dr. C. B. Weedman continuing there after his father's death. In 1904, however, he removed to New London and was no stranger here as his practice had extended to this county. In the intervening years his patronage has steadily increased and his success is the direct outcome of his skill and understanding of the principles of the medical science. He is a member of the Cleveland Medical Society and is examiner for the New York Mutual, the New York Life and the Bankers' Life Insurance Company of Des Moines, the Pittsburg Life Insurance Company, the Massachusetts Life Insurance Company and the Pennsylvania Mutual Life Insurance Company. In twenty-nine years not a man examined by him has died—a remarkable record. In addition to all this he continues actively in general practice of medicine and makes a specialty of diseases of children.

Dr. Weedman served as a member of the county pension board for eight years under appointment of President McKinley and was the nominee of the republican party for the office of county treasurer of Ashland county, in 1904. His personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him were indicated in the fact that he reduced the normal democratic majority from seven hundred to two hundred. He has filled a number of local offices, but at all times has been stalwart in his championship of the republican party, believing most firmly in its principles. His position is never an equivocal one and neither fear nor favor can swerve him from a course which he believes to be right.

In 1880 Dr. Weedman was married to Miss Lucy Iona Dubois, a native of Plymouth, Ohio. Her grandfather, Hubbard Dubois, was a pioneer preacher and revivalist of the Methodist church, identified with the Ohio Northern conference. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Weedman have been born two children. The son, Dr. Don V. Weedman, is now a dentist of Toledo, Ohio, who was graduated from the Western Reserve Dental School in 1904. The daughter, Elizabeth, is a musician of note and a musical director of ability. Dr. and Mrs. Weedman have a wide favorable acquaintance in New London and enjoy the hospitality of the best homes here. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and his fra-

ternal relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He is in hearty sympathy with the principles of those orders and his belief in the brotherhood of the race is evidenced in the broad humanitarian spirit shown in his practice.

WILLIAM C. HEYMAN.

William C. Heyman, who owns and occupies a farm of one hundred and forty-eight acres in Lyme township, was born in Sherman township, this county, April 18, 1870, the son of George G. and Elizabeth (Longshied) Heyman. Both of the parents were born in Germany, yet they were numbered among the early settlers in this part of the state. The father, who was born in 1826, came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Heyman, to this state in 1848, locating at Hunts Corners, where the older people passed the remainder of their days. There George C. Heyman bought a small tract of land, on which he made his home, it being the nucleus of the larger tract which he later accumulated extending over seven hundred acres. Mr. Heyman was all his life identified with farming interests and was a man prominent in local affairs, holding such offices as township trustee here. He was also one of the pillars of the Reformed church, being an elder at the time of his death, and with his brother was one of those few who made possible the building of the church here. Seventy-eight years were the span allotted to him for his earthly course, but his wife had died twenty years previously. William C. Heyman was the tenth in a family of eleven children, the others being: Charles; George, deceased; Amelia, who married August Schied; Daniel; Thomas; Mary, deceased; Jacob; Philip, deceased; Mary, deceased; and Albert.

William C. Heyman passed the first twenty-one years of his life in Sherman township, where he attended the district schools, obtaining from them such an education as they were able to give at that period. From his childhood he has been identified closely with farming interests, learning the rudiments of agriculture under the guidance of his father, so that by the time he had attained manhood he felt fully competent to manage a farm of his own. Since coming to his present home he has greatly improved the place in many ways. In November, 1908, he had the misfortune to have his house burned to the ground and he is now building what will be a much finer residence. Though a good farmer and devoted to his vocation, Mr. Heyman has found time for engaging to a considerable extent in road contracting and has accepted several commissions to build the stone roads in the county. He also is possessed of a threshing machine and engine, thereby being enabled to increase the efficiency of his own farming, as well as to be of great assistance to his friends and neighbors.

In 1891 Mr. Heyman married Miss Lillian Evans, a daughter of James and Nancy (Nibelung) Evans. Both the parents are of European birth, but came to this country at an early date and are numbered among the old settlers of Wood county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Heyman have five children, all of whom are living, Clifford O., Clarence, Eva, Willard and Mae. The family are consistent mem-

bers of the Reformed church, which Mr. Heyman's father did so much to establish here.

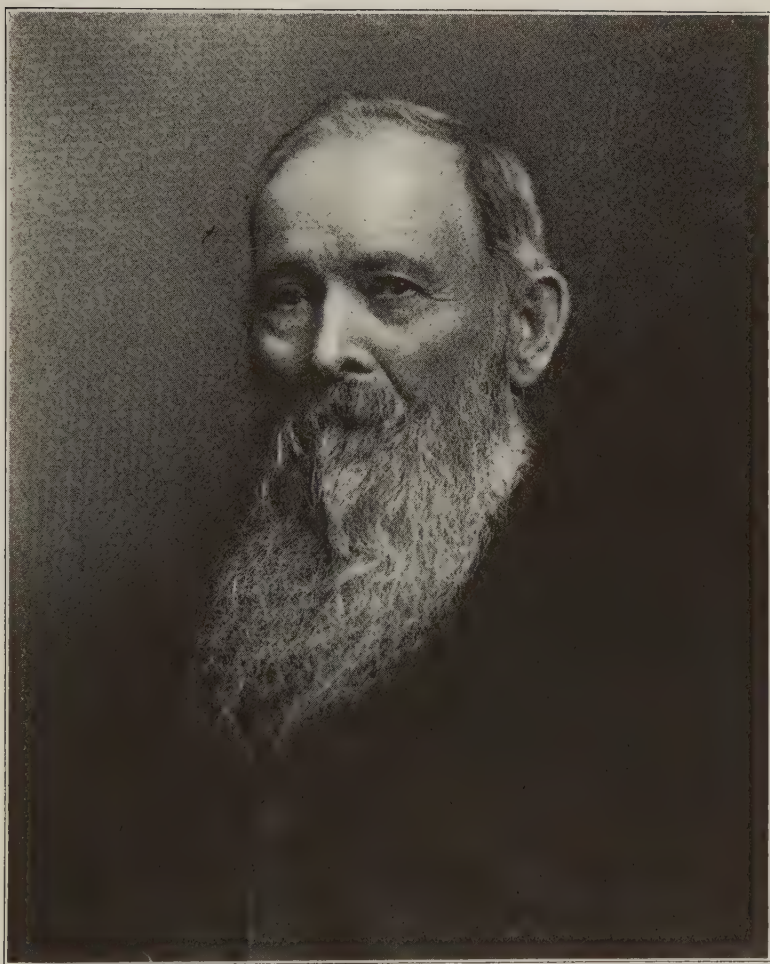
Mr. Heyman is one of that legion of persons whose quiet useful lives do much to assure the stability of the nation. His life has been devoted to hard toil, which has brought its own returns in the returns he has won from the land he has tilled, and those who know him or are numbered among his friends speak well of his noble qualities.

GEORGE W. BIXBY.

George W. Bixby, who owns and operates a valuable and highly improved farm of one hundred and twenty-nine acres in Bronson township, is a native son of Huron county, his birth having occurred in Norwalk, Ohio, on the 1st of May, 1862. His father, Henry Clay Bixby, who was born in Vermont in 1829, made his way to this state in early manhood. When about twenty-one years of age he entered the employ of the Rutland & Burlington Railroad of Vermont as a brakeman, continuing in that capacity until he was promoted to the position of engineer. His health failing, however, he was at length compelled to abandon the road and afterward worked in the shops of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad at Norwalk. When about sixty years of age he took up his abode on his farm in Bronson township and afterward retired to private life, having won a competence that now enables him to spend his remaining days in well earned ease. He is a staunch republican in his political views and is well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as a most substantial and worthy citizen. In 1859 he married Sarah Holmes, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Holmes, of New York, and they became the parents of four children, but only two are now living, namely: George, of this review; and Anna, the wife of Edward Butler, of Bronson township. The mother was called to her final rest August 20, 1906.

George W. Bixby obtained his education in the common schools and when twenty years of age started out in life on his own account, purchasing a tract of land of forty-nine acres from his father. He has since extended the boundaries of the place by an additional purchase of eighty acres and has made many substantial improvements on the property, which is now considered one of the finest in the entire county, being equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. His time and energies are devoted to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate and in the conduct of his agricultural interests he has met with a most gratifying measure of success, which is all the more creditable by reason of the fact that it has been attained entirely through his own efforts.

On the 22d of July, 1882, Mr. Bixby was united in marriage to Miss Cora Elvira Van Kleeck, in whom he has found not only a congenial companion but also a valuable helpmate on the journey of life. She was born in Allegany county, New York, on the 15th of January, 1861, a daughter of Lawrence Van Kleeck, who participated in the Civil war as a soldier of the Union army. On the 1st of



HENRY CLAY BIXBY

September, 1864, in Yates county, New York, he enlisted as a member of the Eighty-fifth Regiment of New York Volunteers and was honorably discharged in 1865, having taken part in several engagements and also spending some time in a hospital. During the greater part of the time he was stationed at Roanoke Island, under command of General Schofield. Mr. and Mrs. Bixby are the parents of the following children: Charles H., who was born October 11, 1883; John L., born January 30, 1886, who attended the business college at Norwalk; Arthur P., whose birth occurred on the 23d of May, 1894; Harry E., whose natal day was November 23, 1895; and George R., who died in infancy.

At the polls Mr. Bixby casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party, believing that its principles are most conducive to good government. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church, while fraternally he is identified with the Maccabees. Throughout the county where he has always resided he has gained wide and favorable recognition as a most prosperous, enterprising and progressive citizen whose life record is a credit to the community.

PETER WILHELM.

General agricultural pursuits engage the attention of Peter Wilhelm, who owns a well improved and productive farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Peru township. He was born in that township on the 18th of March, 1860, his parents being John and Sophia (Shaffer) Wilhelm, both of whom were natives of Germany. When a young man of twenty-four years the father crossed the Atlantic to the United States and for about four years worked as a farm hand for different agriculturists of Huron county. On the expiration of that period he purchased a tract of forty acres and began farming on his own account but later disposed of that property and bought a farm of one hundred and eight acres. On selling that place he purchased a tract of one hundred and twenty-five acres, which is the old family homestead and on which his son Peter now resides. Energetic, industrious and enterprising, he won a goodly measure of prosperity in the conduct of his agricultural interests and was well known as a most substantial and respected citizen of the community.

His political allegiance was unfalteringly given to the democracy and he faithfully discharged the duties devolving upon him in the position of township trustee. He was a prominent and active member of the Catholic church in Peru township, in the faith of which he passed away, his demise occurring in 1886, when he had attained the age of sixty-five years. His wife was but two years of age when brought by her parents, Peter and Catherine Shaffer, to the new world, the family home being established in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio. She was called to her final rest in 1906, when seventy-six years of age. By her marriage she had become the mother of nine children, as follows: Catherine, the deceased wife of August Dehe; Mary, who is the wife of John Geiger and lives at Clyde, Ohio; Angeline, the deceased wife of Constatine Spice; Peter, of this review; Joseph, a resident of Norwalk; Fred, who makes his home in Toledo,

Ohio; John C., likewise a resident of Toledo; Ida, who has passed away; and Tillie, the wife of Austin Garvin, of Clyde, Ohio.

With the exception of a period of three years spent in Sherman township and three years in Putnum county, Ohio, Peter Wilhelm has always made his home in Peru township, this county. In pursuit of an education he attended both the district and German schools, thus equipping himself by good mental training for the practical and responsible duties of life. As above stated, he devotes his time and energies to the cultivation of a tract of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Peru township, on which he has placed a number of substantial improvements until at present it is lacking in none of the equipments and conveniences of a model farming property of the twentieth century.

On the 25th of November, 1884, Mr. Wilhelm was united in marriage to Miss Clara Miller, a native of Lorain county, Ohio, and a daughter of Mathias and Magdaline (Neff) Miller, of that county. Their union has been blessed with six children: Arthur, Otto, Theodore, Elmer, Verna and Walter. On the 25th of November, 1908, Arthur Wilhelm, the eldest son, wedded Miss Elizabeth Wise, of Sherman township, and they now have one child, Herman. They reside on a portion of our subject's farm.

Mr. Wilhelm has capably served in the position of trustee in Peru township and at present holds the office of township clerk, to which he was elected on the democratic ticket in 1906. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church of Peru township. He inherits the industrial qualities, together with the honesty, of his German ancestry, and aside from being numbered among the successful farmers of the community, he is also acknowledged to be one of the representative citizens of the township.

L. SNOOK.

L. Snook, for ten years a practitioner at the Norwalk bar and also active in local republican circles, is numbered among Ohio's native sons, his birth having occurred in Wyandot county on the 14th of November, 1858. His father, William Snook, was a native of Licking county, this state, but lived for many years in Wyandot and Hancock counties. By trade he was a carpenter. He died in 1891 at the age of sixty-eight years and is still survived by his widow, who bore the maiden name of Nancy Starr and is a native of Fairfield county, Ohio. She now makes her home with her children.

In the country schools of Wyandot and Hancock counties L. Snook pursued his early education, mastering the branches of learning that constitute the public school curriculum. He afterward took up the profession of teaching which he followed for eighteen years in those two counties. He was not only able to maintain discipline—an essential to good teaching—but also imparted readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired, bringing to his students a thorough understanding of the branches of learning that he was required to teach. His leisure hours during a part of this period were devoted to the study of law. He had two brothers who took up the study of law, but L. A. Snook died in Sandusky,

Ohio, in 1902, after practicing there for some time. The other brother, W. S. Snook, is now a successful representative of the bar in Findlay, Ohio. After mastering many of the principles of jurisprudence, becoming familiar with Kent, Blackstone and other commentaries, Mr. Snook successfully passed the required examination for admission to the bar in 1899. In the same year he came to Norwalk, opened his office and has since continued in practice here. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of labor. He is a strong advocate with a jury and concise in his appeals before the court. He manifests, moreover, a natural discrimination as to legal ethics and is able to base his arguments upon thorough knowledge of and familiarity with precedents and to present a case upon its merits. He throws himself easily and naturally into the argument, with a self possession and deliberation that indicates a thorough understanding of the situation. There is a precision and clearness in his statement and acuteness and strength in his argument which bespeaks a mind trained in the severest school of investigation and to which the closest reasoning has become habitual and easy.

In March, 1884, Mr. Snook was married to Miss Margaret Taylor, a native of Carroll county, Ohio, and they now have two children, Jennie and Mabel, the former the wife of J. G. Rorick. Their only son, Taylor, died at the age of five years.

In his political views Mr. Snook is an active republican, doing all in his power to further the interests of the party and is now acting as township clerk of Norwalk township. He holds membership relations with the Knights of Maccabees and the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Congregational church in the work of which he is much interested. He is now serving as a member of its executive committee and also as superintendent of its Sunday school, and his labors are effective and far reaching in furthering its interests and extending its influence. His aid is ever given on the side of justice, truth and progress and while he desires success he will never win it at the sacrifice of any principle or course which he believes to be right.

OTIS G. CARTER.

Otis G. Carter is a representative of our best type of American manhood and chivalry. It is one of the laws of life that man shall labor for what he possesses and while putting forth earnest, persistent effort to acquire success in mercantile lines, whereby he has become recognized as the leading jeweler of New London. Mr. Carter has also found time and opportunity to cooperate in movements for the general good and his genuine worth, broad mind and public spirit have made him a director of public thought and action. He was born in Norwalk, January 5, 1851. His father, Otis G. Carter, Sr., was twenty-one years of age when he arrived in Norwalk. He had previously learned the jewelry and watchmaking trade in Erie, Pennsylvania, and on his removal to this county established business on his own account in that line. He continued in active connection with that department of trade until 1855 when he went to Chicago, where he conducted a simi-

lar enterprise. In 1860, however, he returned to Norwalk, where he remained in business until his death, working at the jeweler's bench until ninety years of age. He was a remarkable man, accurate, systematic and energetic and his remarkable constitution and vitality enabled him to continue a factor in the world's work until his last days. In politics he was an earnest republican, interested in the welfare of the town and contributing in substantial measure to its upbuilding and progress. He organized the first Baptist Sunday school of Norwalk and on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary delivered an interesting address. His life was an influential factor in the moral as well as the material development of the city and wherever he was known he was respected and honored. He married Miss Julia Berry, a native of Fredonia, New York, and both are now deceased.

Otis G. Carter of this review was the fourth in order of birth in a family of ten children. His education was acquired in the schools of Norwalk, where he passed through successive grades until he was graduated from the high school. He then entered his father's store and under his direction learned the jewelry business, spending five years in that way. Ambitious to engage in business on his own account, in 1874 he removed to New London, where he established a jewelry store, which he has since carried on, having now been identified with the mercantile interests of the city for thirty-five years. His first location was across the street from his present place of business and after some time he built the store which he now occupies. He carries a large and well selected line of goods, all attractive, tasteful and artistic patterns and in his trade relations is thoroughly reliable, building up an extensive and profitable business by reason of his earnest desire to please his customers, his reasonable prices and his straightforward business methods.

In 1882 Mr. Carter built the residence on First street which he occupies. Throughout the period of his residence here he has been more or less active in public affairs, withholding his aid and cooperation from no movement which he deems of benefit to the community at large. He has been township clerk since 1898 and a member of the board of public affairs for several years. In politics he is an active, earnest and zealous republican, yet he does not seek or care for office as a reward for party fealty. He has labored earnestly, however, to elect his friends and is a recognized factor in county republican circles, his opinions carrying weight in the councils of the party.

In 1871 Mr. Carter was married to Miss Estella Moorehouse, a native of Norwalk and a daughter of David Moorehouse, one of the old residents of Norwalk, where he has been prominently connected with the lumber trade for a number of years. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Carter has been blessed with two daughters and a son: Elizabeth; Richard Otis, who received his business training under his father's direction and is now engaged in the jewelry business in Cleveland; and Florence M., the wife of D. F. White of Detroit. In his fraternal relations Mr. Carter is a Mason, holding membership with Floral Lodge, No. 260, A. F. & A. M.; and New London Chapter, No. 110, R. A. M., of New London. He belongs to the Methodist church and is interested in the moral progress and intellectual development of the community as well as the promotion of its interests in material lines. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been ac-

corded due recognition of labor and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county. As a business man he has been conspicuous among his associates, not only for his success but for his probity, fairness and honorable methods.

C. B. LAWRENCE.

No matter in how much fantastic theorizing one may indulge as to the causation of success, it will be found that in every instance business progress has its basis in close application and indefatigable labor. This truth is manifest in the life record of C. B. Lawrence, now a leading insurance man of Norwalk. He was born July 5, 1866, in Iowa, a son of Alonzo E. Lawrence, who was born in Bronson township, Huron county, Ohio, where his father, George Lawrence, had settled in 1823. The latter was a native of Cayuga county, New York, and removing westward in pioneer times, was busily employed here in cutting away the forest trees and developing a homestead in the midst of the green woods, sharing in all of the hardships and privations which fall to the lot of the frontier settler. His wife bore the maiden name of Rodena Smith and was a native of the state of New York.

Alonzo E. Lawrence was born on the old family homestead in this county in 1838, was reared to the occupation of farming and assisted his father in the work of the fields through the period of his minority. He was about twenty-six years of age, when, in 1864, he enlisted in response to the country's call for further aid, joining the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he was connected until the close of the war. After the cessation of hostilities he removed to Butler county, Iowa, and it was during the residence of the family there that the subject of this review was born. They remained in Iowa, however, for only four years, after which they returned to Huron county and settled in Bronson township, upon the old Herrick homestead. There the father remained, busily employed in general agricultural pursuits until the time of his death, which occurred April 8, 1906. In early manhood he had wedded Electa Jane Herrick, also a representative of one of the oldest and most prominent pioneer families of this part of the state. Her grandfather, Ezra Herrick, settled in Bronson township in 1818, when Ephraim Herrick, her father, was a young man of eighteen years. Ephraim Herrick became quite prominent in local affairs of the county, serving for a long period as justice of the peace, during which time his decisions were strictly fair and impartial and won high commendation. The first frame house in Bronson township was built on his farm and the first township election was held in that house. At that time there was a log jail in Norwalk and the other public buildings were of almost an equally primitive character. Ephraim Herrick served as guard over two Indians confined in the jail for murder and who were afterward executed. He was closely associated with many of the early notable events and bore his share in promoting the work of modern civilization. His daughter, Electa Jane Herrick, was born on the old homestead in October, 1841. This farm is now in possession of the Lawrence family. She was one of a family of five children but only one is now

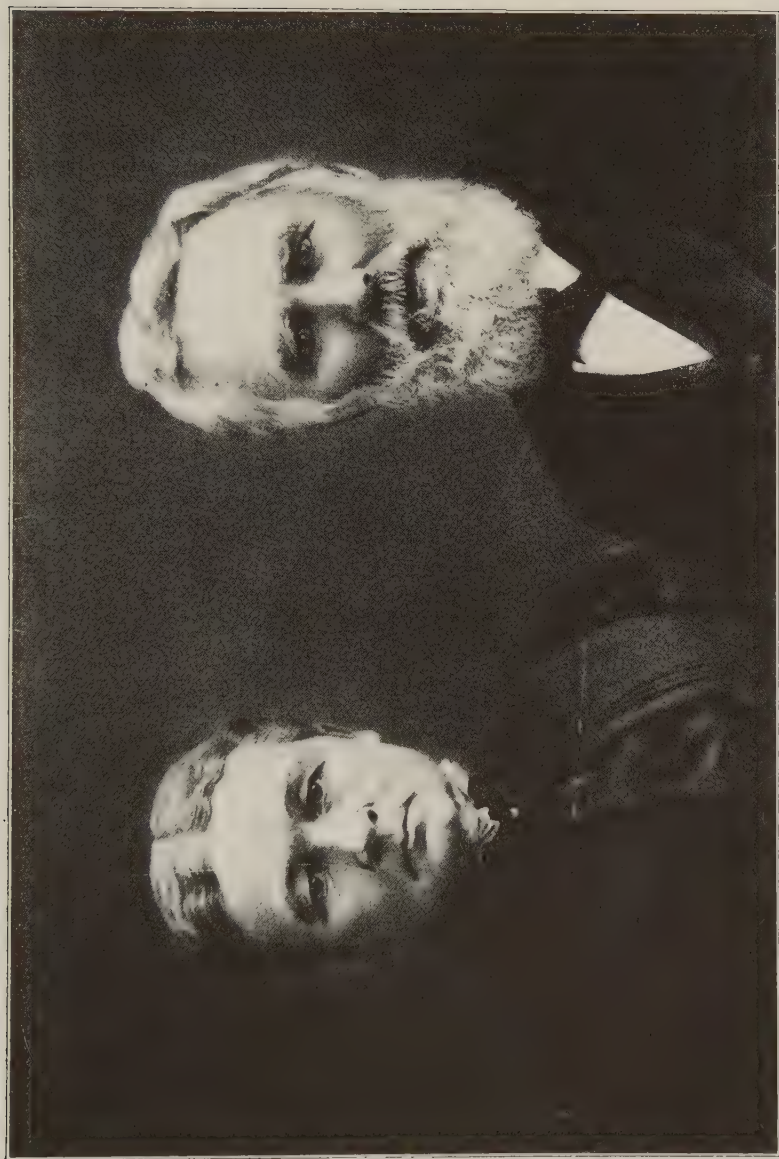
living. On reaching womanhood she gave her hand in marriage to Alonzo E. Lawrence, who was one of a family of four children, all living with the exception of himself. His brothers are: Miner, now living on the old Lawrence homestead; and G. A., who is living in Monrovia, California, while the sister, Alice E., the widow of William Lawrence, is now a resident of South Dakota.

C. B. Lawrence was educated in the public schools of Huron county, to which he was brought during his early childhood on his parents' return to Ohio. He afterward had the benefit of instruction in the Normal school at Milan, and later engaged in farming on the old homestead until 1896, when he came to Norwalk. Here he has since lived and for about eleven years he was upon the road as a traveling salesman, being thus engaged until 1907, when he bought out the old established insurance agency of Altaffer & Canfield and is now engaged in the general insurance business. He is meeting with good success in this undertaking and is well known as a representative and reliable citizen of Norwalk.

In 1889 Mr. Lawrence was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Schild, a native of Wood county, Ohio, and a daughter of George Schild. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have one daughter, Marie, who was born on the 13th of April, 1892. His mother also lives with him. With the exception of the four years spent in Iowa she always resided on the old Herrick homestead until her husband's death, when she came to Norwalk to live with her son. Mr. Lawrence is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also of the Presbyterian church and these organizations indicate much of the nature of his interests and the rules which govern his conduct. His actions have ever been manly and sincere and while he has never sought to figure prominently in public life, in the locality where he lives he is highly respected.

MAJOR A. McINTYRE.

Major A. McIntyre, a retired farmer of Fitchville township, Huron county, was born in Hinkley township, Medina county, Ohio, September 1, 1836, a son of Thomas and Ruth (Collony) McIntyre. The former was born at White Plains, Massachusetts, and is of Scotch descent, while the latter was a native of Braddock, Connecticut, and of Irish parentage. They were married and had two children before coming to Ohio in 1829. They settled in Hinkley, Medina county, where Mr. McIntyre took up the life of a farmer and prosecuted his labors as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was a very devout man and a great worker in the church, and his farm was for a number of years the scene of Methodist camp meetings, to which ministers and laymen of the faith flocked, sometimes from great distances. In 1846 he moved his family to Sandusky county, where they remained a year, then brought them to Huron county. In 1848 he located in Fitchville township, which was his home until his death in July, 1849. He was a strong and noble man, whose principal concern was that his twelve children might be well equipped to fight the battles of life. His widow made her home in Fitchville until 1886, when she went to Claire, Michigan, to visit her son Arthur, and there was taken sick and died.



MR. AND MRS. M. A. MCINTYRE

Major A. McIntyre is the youngest of the family and the only one now living. He received a meager education in the common schools of Fitchville township and learned the trade of a carpenter. In 1856 he went to Kansas and during the two years he spent there participated in the border troubles. Many of his experiences were exciting and thrilling. On one occasion he was captured by the notorious John Brown, but when it became known that he was journeying for a physician to assist a sick person in the family with whom he was living, and that he was from Ohio, he was released. On another occasion, a few months later, when going by stage from Lawrence, Kansas, to Kansas City, Missouri, both mere hamlets at the time, he found that one of his companions was his distinguished captor. Many are the events of those years that he can narrate, and they doubtless prepared him in some measure for the struggle that enveloped the nation a few years later. In this, too, Mr. McIntyre took a part. He enlisted in Company D, Second Ohio Heavy Artillery, August 23, 1863, and participated in all the battles of the Army of the Cumberland, but though he was ever at his post in the faithful performance of his duty, he came from the conflict without a wound and without having been captured. On the 24th of August, 1865, he was mustered out of the service, and came directly to Norwalk, Ohio, where he found employment in the carshops of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway. In the spring of 1866 he located in Fitchville but later in the year went to Kansas, not to stay, however, for he returned to Huron county and again secured a position with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern. Five years later he engaged in contracting and building in Norwalk, in which he continued until 1884, when he returned to the farm in Fitchville, which has been his home ever since. He owns one hundred and three acres of land, of fine quality, on which he practiced a successful line of general farming to within the last five years, having since in large measure given up the active care and responsibility of it.

On the 10th of January, 1863, Mr. McIntyre was married to Miss Mary St. John, a daughter of William and Ann (Hale) St. John. The St. John is a prominent and influential family of Fitchville township, to which they came from Connecticut in the early pioneer days. One son and three daughters are still living: Hubbard, of Greenwich township; Myra, now Mrs. Benjamin Fessenden, of Fairfield township; Charissa, the wife of Dalton Burton, of Olena, and Mary, the wife of our subject. To Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre have been born six children: William A., who is married and resides in Cleveland; Mary E., the wife of Levi C. Brothers, of Fitchville township; and Ella, Dessie, Burdette and Charles H., who have passed away.

In politics Mr. McIntyre is a republican, who cast his first vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, a few months before he was twenty-one. In 1872 he supported Horace Greeley, but has since then voted the republican ticket for the most part. He has ever taken an active interest in political matters and has frequently served as a delegate to conventions. In the public life of the township he has also participated, acting as trustee for a considerable period. In 1858 he was made a Mason and for long was active in the society's lodges, and was instrumental in establishing the commandery of the Knights Templar in Norwalk. The Norwalk G. A. R. post also includes him on its roll of active members, and on more than one occasion he has been delegated to represent it in the state and national

conventions. Mr. McIntyre considers that his most active years have passed, but his interest in the affairs of the township has not diminished, nor his influence in promoting its progress and advancement.

MARTIN GROSS.

Martin Gross, president and treasurer of the Gross Lumber Company, of Bellevue, Ohio, was born in Germany, July 1, 1843, the son of William and Kathryn (Fritz) Gross. The parents, who died in their native land of Germany, reared a family of six children: John; William; Elizabeth, deceased; Kathryn; David, deceased; and Martin. A seventh child did not live beyond the period of infancy.

Martin Gross came to this country at the age of seventeen years and settled first at Rochester, New York, where he worked for perhaps six months, at the cabinet-maker's trade, which he had learned in Germany. From there he came to Bellevue, Ohio, in February, 1861, but though two of his brothers had come to this section of the state before him, he could find no work and of necessity sought employment on a farm. For about a year and a half he worked for William and Henry Heyman, in Huron county, and then toward the close of the season he left to join the army fighting for the Union. On the 6th of August, 1862, he was mustered into Company H, One Hundred and Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, joining his regiment at Cleveland. At the battle of Chancellorsville he was wounded in the leg and head, necessitating his remaining in the hospital for six months. Upon being reported fit for service, he was transferred to Company D of the Ninth Regiment of the Veteran Reserve Corps, at Washington, with which he remained until he was discharged June 29, 1865.

Upon his return from the field of battle, Mr. Gross located in Bellevue, Ohio, where he worked at the cabinet-maker's trade until 1867, when he saw an opportunity of entering the furniture business in partnership with John S. Wise. For fourteen years the venture prospered, but in 1881 Mr. Gross dissolved the firm in order that he might go into the lumber business with J. H. Weber, who sold his interest in 1889 to C. D. Stone. When Mr. Stone died three years later, Mrs. Stone sold his share to Mr. Weber, and so the original partners were together again, conducting the business in common until Mr. Weber died, in 1895, when Mr. Gross bought his share. Three years afterward he formed a stock company with a declared capital of forty thousand dollars. Martin Gross was the president and treasurer of this new concern; George Smith was the vice president; and Martin F. Gross was the secretary. The board of directors included these men and Mrs. Martin Gross and James Spade. At present the board of directors consists of, besides the original officials, James Spade, Frank Smith, W. G. Gross and Charles A. Gross.

On the 1st of May, 1866, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gross to Miss Philippina Schwenk, the daughter of George Schwenk, who did not leave his native land of Germany. Nine children have been born to the couple. Louise, the eldest, married T. F. McLaughy, of Bellevue, and is the mother of three daughters, Norma, Ruth and Agnes. Lizzie married William Cramer and lives in To-

ledo, with her family of three, Carl, Helen and Florence. Martin died at the age of eight months. Minnie married August Josenhaus, of Toledo, and is the mother of one son, George. Katie married Joseph Briehl, of Bellevue, and they have three sons, Martin, Charles and Joseph. Emma died at the age of eighteen. William G. married Miss Estella Cooley, and like his two younger brothers, Martin F. and Charles A., lives at Bellevue, being in business with their father. Martin F. married Miss Etta Brickman and is the father of a son, Paul. Charles A. married Miss Mabel Long.

Though so much of his time is given to the lumber business which he inaugurated, Mr. Gross has many other interests both in the world of affairs and socially and fraternally. He is on the board of directors of the Zehner Brothers Packing Company, of the Bellevue Savings Bank, and is a stockholder in the First National Bank. He is a member of the local G. A. R. post, and also affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Masons and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. In the former, he has passed through all the chairs. In religious matters he gives his allegiance to the Lutheran church. Mr. Gross is a business man of prominence in his city; his interests are wide and look to the development of Bellevue as well as to personal gain.

GEORGE P. SCHILD.

A valuable farm of one hundred and seventy-seven acres in Peru township is the property of George P. Schild and annually pays tribute to his care and labor in bounteous harvests. His birth occurred in Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 4th of December, 1858, his parents being George and Catherine (Hesselbauch) Schild, both of whom were natives of Germany. In early manhood the father came to the United States alone and for a number of years worked on a lake boat running into Sandusky, Ohio. Subsequently he peddled merchandise throughout the vicinity and later gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits, first renting a tract of land in Erie county. Afterward he purchased a farm in Wood county, Ohio, and later traded that property for a farm belonging to Charles Moore in Sherman township, Huron county. As the years passed and his financial resources increased, as the result of his well directed and untiring labor, he added to his landed holdings by additional purchase and became widely recognized as a most successful and enterprising agriculturist. He passed away in 1893, at the age of sixty-five years, his demise occurring on his farm of two hundred and sixty-five acres in Greenfield township. He assisted in the erection of the Lutheran church at Pontiac, and always remained one of its most active and helpful members. He was married three times and by his first wife, who died in early womanhood, had two children: one who passed away in infancy; and Lena, the wife of Sol Beck, of Peru township. The demise of his second wife occurred in Wood county, and she left a family of seven children to mourn her loss, namely: Carolina, who is the wife of George Linder, of Peru township; Libbie, who gave her hand in marriage to Ambrose Smith, of Peru township; George P., of this review; Charles, who is deceased; Mary, the wife

of William Knoll, of Bellevue; Louise, the wife of Charles Luteman, of Norwalk; and Anna, who is the wife of Bert Brooks, of Chicago Junction, Ohio. For his third wife George Schild chose Miss Charlotta Hick and their union was blessed with four children, as follows: Amelia, who is now the wife of Bert Lawrence, of Norwalk; August, who has passed away; William, a resident of Lansing, Michigan; and John, who makes his home in Cleveland, Ohio. The mother of these children still survives and is now living in Norwalk, Ohio.

George P. Schild obtained his education in the district schools of Wood and Huron counties and since putting aside his text-books has given his attention to the work of general farming. He has resided on his present farm of one hundred and seventy-seven acres in Peru township since 1879, and as the years have gone by has made a number of substantial improvements on the property, remodeling the house and barn, etc. He keeps his fields rich and arable through the rotation of crops and has studied, too, the best time and methods of planting and the best means of cultivating the soil. That his labors have been practical is indicated by the results which he has achieved, owning now one of the best farms of the community.

On the 23d of July, 1885, Mr. Schild was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Herner, a native of Sherman township and a daughter of Phedius and Lena Herner, who were natives of Germany but became early settlers of Huron county, Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schild have been born three children: Gertrude, living in Peru township, who is the wife of John Scheid and has two children, Harold and Catherine; William H., whose birth occurred June 26, 1890; and Clayton, whose natal day was December 3, 1898. The last two are still under the parental roof.

At the polls Mr. Schild casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democracy and for four years served in the position of township trustee. At the present time he is doing effective service for the cause of education as a member of the school board. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church at Pontiac, in which he has held various official positions, including those of trustee and deacon. Most of his life has been spent in Huron county, where he has a wide acquaintance and is favorably known.

B. D. ROWELL.

B. D. Rowell is now filling the office of county treasurer in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents, for in the discharge of his duties he is manifesting business ability and systematic methods which have won him high commendation. He is numbered among Michigan's native sons, his birth having occurred in Jackson, that state, on the 19th of July, 1854, his parents being Daniel and Martha (Thompson) Rowell, who were natives of the state of New York. Both the paternal and maternal grandfathers were loyal defenders of American interests in the Revolutionary war. When but five years of age the father was taken by his parents to Indiana, the family home being established in Stark county. Both he and his wife spent their last days in Indiana, although

in the meantime they had resided elsewhere. At the time of the Civil war Daniel Rowell espoused the cause of the Union, serving in the Twenty-ninth Indiana Regiment. He was an enthusiastic advocate of the cause of abolition and believing that the war was a forward step toward securing the freedom of the slaves and also because of his belief in the supremacy of the Federal government, he joined the boys in blue. He lost one son who was at the front defending the Union, and another son served throughout the war until its close.

B. D. Rowell is indebted to the public-school system of that state for the educational opportunities accorded him and he also engaged in teaching in the country schools in Indiana during his early manhood. He then took up the study of telegraphy and was associated with the Western Union until elected to office. As their representative he came to Norwalk and continued to act as operator here until he was chosen to the office of county treasurer in 1895. He has served two terms in the position and has been a faithful custodian of the public funds, being careful and systematic in the care of the public money and in all of the work of the office.

Mr. Rowell was married in 1876 to Miss Lucinda Deringer, a native of Hardin county, Ohio, and they now have one son, Harry E., who is a graduate of Buchtel College and is now residing in Toronto, Canada. Mr. Rowell is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being affiliated with Mount Vernon lodge. He also belongs to the Methodist church and while a man of modest, quiet, reserved manner, he is much respected for his genuine personal worth and for his creditable official record.

IRVING CARPENTER.

Irving Carpenter has practiced law in Norwalk since 1905 and has been accorded a liberal clientage. He was born in Fairfield township, Huron county, October 24, 1879, his parents being Alvin J. and Ollie (Hodges) Carpenter. The father was born in Ripley township, December 27, 1854, and the mother's birth occurred in Missouri. The paternal grandfather, Leonard E. Carpenter, is also a native of this county, having started upon the journey of life in Fairfield township, December 21, 1829. He is still living at the venerable age of eighty years. His father was Asa Carpenter, who came from Connecticut to Ohio at an early epoch in the history of Huron county in company with his father, Daniel Carpenter, who settled in Fairfield township. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, participating in the battle of Lexington and in other engagements during his three years' service in Captain Macey's company. On the removal westward the family became closely identified with events relative to the pioneer development and improvement of the county and were closely associated with its agricultural interests. In his later years Alvin J. Carpenter removed to Norwalk township and is now an active and prosperous farmer of that locality.

Irving Carpenter, an only child, was educated in the country schools and in the North Fairfield high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1897. Subsequently he engaged in teaching for five years and during that period he also pursued a literary course in the Ohio Northern University. For

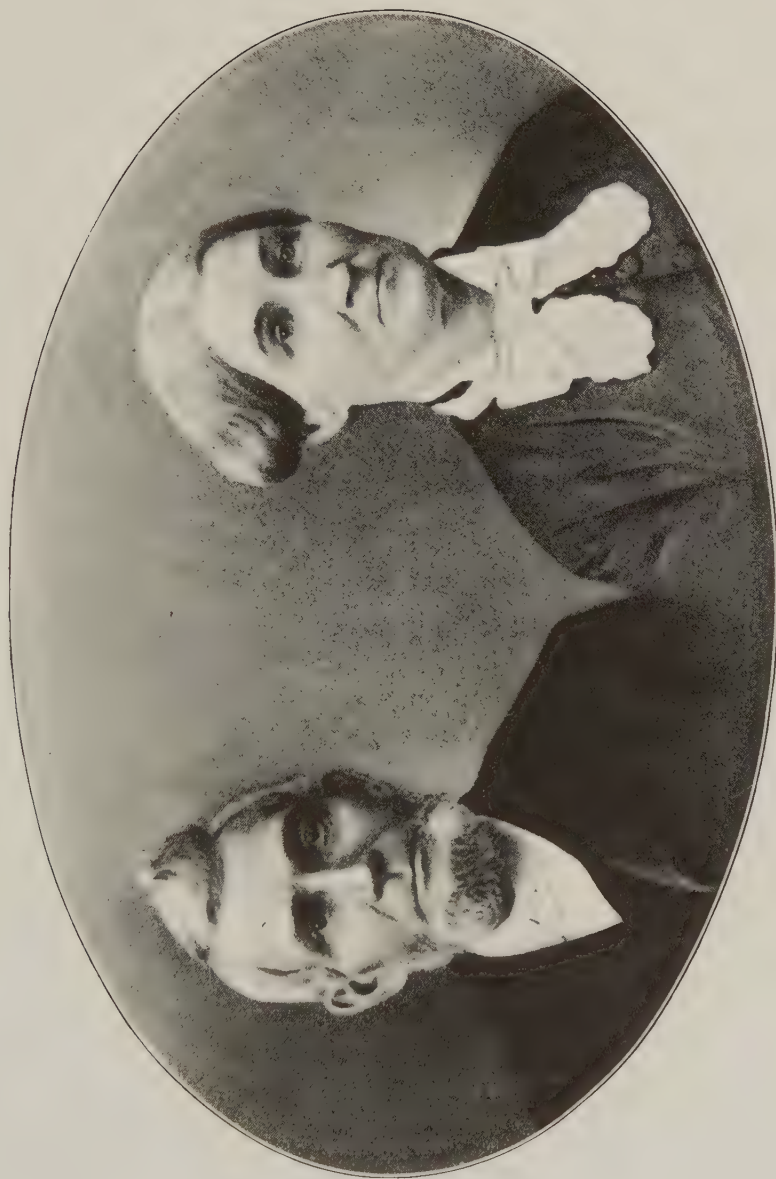
three years he had charge of the schools of Lewistown, Logan county, Ohio, but he regarded this merely as an initial step to other professional labor and, taking up the study of law, was graduated from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor with the class of 1905. He then located for practice in Norwalk, where he has since remained, and in the intervening years he has come into close and prominent connection with the work of the courts, being accorded a liberal patronage.

Mr. Carpenter was married in 1907 to Miss Myrtle McCracken, a native of Bellefontaine, Ohio, and one daughter, Helen, was born to them in August, 1909. His fraternal relations are with Fairfield Lodge, No. 261, A. F. & A. M., and with Huron Lodge, No. 37, I. O. O. F. He is an exemplary representative of those fraternities, being in hearty sympathy with their principles and purposes. He also belongs to the Methodist church and is interested in all that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community. He represents one of the old and prominent pioneer families who from the earliest days in Huron county have been identified with its progress and upbuilding. In the work of general improvement he is actively interested and his cooperation can be counted upon to further various measures for the general good.

BYRON B. HALL.

Byron B. Hall, who is now living retired in Olena, is surrounded by a host of warm friends, who esteem him for his worth and for his high moral character. He is a native of Huron county, his birth having occurred February 26, 1844, on the old homestead farm where his father located in 1838. The parents, Rev. and Mrs. Franklin P. Hall, both engaged in teaching school for years, the former in the state of New York and subsequently in Ohio. His education was acquired in Cazenovia, New York. He was a Baptist in religious faith and for a half century engaged in preaching in this county. He organized the church of that denomination in Fitchville and in addition to preaching the Gospel, he officiated at more funeral services and married a larger number of couples during his work as a minister than any other minister in Huron county. His death occurred in 1890 and his memory is yet cherished by many, who were benefited by his Christian influence and by the words of truth which he proclaimed from the pulpit. In 1838 he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Burns, who was born in Greene county, New York, and in 1832 accompanied her father's family on their removal to Huron county, Ohio, residing in Fitchville township up to the time of her marriage. Other members of the Burns family were residents of that township up to 1873.

Byron B. Hall was reared on the homestead farm in Fairfield township, which place is now in his possession and comprises one hundred twelve and a half acres. He was afforded excellent educational advantages in the schools of Oberlin and Lebanon, Ohio, and, preparing himself for the teacher's profession, he taught in the public schools for a long period. In 1898, however, he retired from the pro-



REV. AND MRS. FRANKLIN P. HALL

fession and removed to his farm, where he spent a few years, but is now living retired in the village of Olena, where he is surrounded by all the comforts of life.

Mr. Hall was married December 24, 1872, to Miss Martha A. Hewet, who was born in Warrensville, Ohio, October 26, 1844. Mrs. Hall was graduated from the Cleveland Central high school in 1864, after which she engaged in teaching in the Berea and the Medina high schools. She was a devoted Christian woman, prominent in the work of the church and Sunday school, was a model housekeeper, fond of her home and church, and constantly sought to do good wherever opportunity offered. Her death was the result of an accident, and her demise was a heavy blow not only to her own household but to a wide circle of friends as well. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Clara M., was educated in the Huron high school and in Oberlin College. She is now engaged in teaching in the public schools of Montpelier, Ohio.

Mr. Hall supports the men and measures of the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church. He is a man of exemplary habits, strict integrity and has a strong personality, and he is now enjoying in honorable retirement the fruits of his former toil.

WILLIAM STEIN.

William Stein, owning and operating a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres in Lyme township, was born in Ridgefield township, Huron county, November 9, 1861, his parents being Jacob and Philomena (Breckner) Stein, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father, whose birth occurred December 13, 1833, came alone to the United States at the age of eighteen years, taking up his abode at Monroeville, Ohio. During the following eleven years he worked as a farm hand for various agriculturists of the vicinity, while in 1860 he was married and subsequently operated a rented farm for four years. He then came to Lyme township and purchased eighty-four acres of land which he cleared and on which he erected a dwelling, continuing to make his home on that farm for about twenty-three years. On the expiration of that period he bought his present place of ninety-three acres—a well improved and productive tract of land. He is a prominent and public-spirited citizen of the community and has capably served as trustee of Lyme township for five years. His interest in moral advancement is deep and sincere and he contributed liberally for the erection of the Evangelical church at Monroeville, while later he helped to build the Lutheran church of Lyme township. His residence in this county now covers fifty-eight years and he was one of the worthy pioneer settlers whose labors contributed in no small measure to the early development and upbuilding of the community along many lines. His wife also came to Huron county at an early day and here they reared their family of seven children, namely: William, of this review; Henry; Sarah, the wife of Andrew Schafer, who resides in Cleghorn, Iowa; Jacob; Lewis, who is deceased; Emma, the deceased wife of Gus Knoll; and Bena, who became the wife of George Schafer.

William Stein obtained a good practical education in the district schools and, being reared on his father's farm, early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Throughout his entire business career he has been identified with general farming interests, now owning a rich and productive tract of one hundred and seventy-six acres in Lyme township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devotes his time and energies. The place is lacking in none of the equipments and accessories of a model farming property of the twentieth century, and the commodious and substantial brick residence was erected by Mr. Stein in 1904. He also cultivates rented land in addition to his own farm and the success which has attended his undertakings is but the merited reward of his persistent and well directed labor and capable management.

On the 2d of April, 1891, Mr. Stein was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Ohlemacher, a daughter of Philip and Christina (Hunt) Ohlemacher, of Oxford, Ohio. Unto them have been born five children: Norma, Albert, Edwin, Elsie and Dorothy, all at home. Mr. Stein is a valued member of the Lutheran church, in which he has held various official positions and in the work of which he is deeply and helpfully interested. All of his life has been passed in this county and, while his career has been uneventful in some respects, he belongs to that class of substantial and representative citizens, who constitute the real strength of the nation by reason of their business activity, their loyalty in citizenship and their honor and integrity in private life.

D. J. C. ARNOLD.

The business ability and enterprising spirit of D. J. C. Arnold have found tangible expression in the establishment and control of an extensive manufacturing enterprise at New London. He is engaged in the manufacture of brick-yard supplies and machinery and the business has now reached large and profitable proportions. It is growing year by year.

Mr. Arnold was born in Adams, Massachusetts, in 1854. His father, Elisha Arnold, was also a native of that locality and a representative of an old New England family. He married Electa Hemmingway and, establishing their home in Adams, Massachusetts, their son, D. J. C. Arnold, was there reared, pursuing his education in the public schools. He was a young man of about twenty-two when in 1876 he came to New London. From the time that he put aside his text-books he has always been identified with manufacturing interests and the lumber business and in New London he became associated with trade interests as a manufacturer of brick-yard supplies, starting business in a modest way, his output consisting only of molds, trucks, etc. Under his capable supervision and wise direction the trade constantly expanded and the factory is now one of the leading industrial institutions of the county. He now manufactures a full line of brick machinery and the business is very extensive and increases annually. Mr. Arnold has been watchful of all the indications pointing to success. Prompt, energetic and notably reliable, he does not delay in filling contracts and lives up to the spirit as well as the letter of the law in all of his business relations. His reliability stands as an unquestioned

fact in his career and his enterprise has enabled him to accomplish important and gratifying results. In addition to his manufacturing interests he likewise figures prominently in financial circles, having for many years been the vice president of the New London National Bank.

In 1875 Mr. Arnold wedded Miss Mary Hemingway, a native of New London, who died in 1886. His present wife bore the maiden name of Julia West and is a native of Wellington, Ohio. By the first marriage there were three children and two of the second marriage., namely: J. H., who is an able assistant of his father in business; Charles H.; Mrs. Anna A. Rorick; Louise; and Gracie. The family attends the Methodist church, to which Mr. Arnold belongs, and politically he is a republican and has served as a member of the city council. He consented to hold office from a sense of duty rather than from any desire for political preferment but at all times takes a warm interest in the city's welfare and does everything in his power to promote its progress and advancement. His labors are of a practical nature and the worth of his work is widely acknowledged by his fellow townsmen.

WILMER B. McCAGUE.

A well known and valued representative of the farming interests of Bronson township is Wilmer B. McCague. He was born September 9, 1863, on the farm where he now makes his home and in his life work he has displayed energy, enterprise and diligence which have enabled him to greatly increase the value of his property and win substantial success as the years have gone by. His parents were George W. and Esther E. (Selover) McCague. The family was founded in America by Thomas McCague, who was born in Ireland, and his wife Jeanette Cochran, a native of Scotland. In the year 1774 they came to the United States and settled in Philadelphia where Thomas McCague, the grandfather of our subject, was born and reared. The date of his birth was 1784 and after arriving at years of maturity he married Rosanna Coyan. A removal was made by the family from Philadelphia to Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and in a subsequent generation the family was founded in Holmes county, Ohio. George W. McCague, the father of our subject, was born near McKeesport, Pennsylvania, April 19, 1829. It was about 1845 or 50 that the family home was established in Huron county. G. W. McCague was united in marriage to Miss Esther E. Selover, who was born in New York, September 16, 1840. Her father Isaac Selover was born in New Jersey, May 2, 1819, and having arrived at years of maturity he married Cornelia Westfall, whose birth occurred in the same state, January 21, 1817. She came to Ohio with her husband, Isaac Selover, in 1841. He had purchased a tract of land near Olena and a few years later, upon his death, left his widow with two little daughters. She personally conducted the farm until her daughters were grown and married and after the death of her elder daughter's husband she assisted in rearing her three boys. Her younger daughter also died and three more boys were thus committed to her care. The motto of this noble woman seemed in harmony with the teaching "not to be ministered unto, but to minister," for her life was spent in lending a helping

hand to the sick and suffering. She was a daughter of Simeon Westfall, who was born in New Jersey in 1782, and of Esther Brink, whose birth occurred September 14, 1790.

Wilmer B. McCague spent his youthful days on the home farm and his training was such as to make him well qualified to carry on agricultural pursuits on his own account when he attained his majority. He never falters in the pursuit of a persistent purpose, works earnestly and persistently to accomplish the end in view and as the years have gone by he has harvested rich crops which annually bring to him a substantial return. His fields present a neat and attractive appearance and altogether the farm is one of the desirable properties of the community.

On the 22d of November, 1893, Mr. McCague was married to Miss Abbie C. Smedley, who was born December 6, 1860, and is a daughter of Lindorf and Catherine (Light) Smedley. Lindorf Smedley was a son of Chester and Clarissa (Landon) Smedley, who were natives of Litchfield, Connecticut, and Chester Smedley was a son of Ephraim and Anna (Gibbs) Smedley. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McCague have been born three daughters: Catherine Esther, born March 12, 1895; Vera Jane, born July 6, 1896; and Mae Lue, born February 13, 1900. The parents are members of the Disciple church and Mr. McCague is a republican in his political views. He does not seek nor desire office but concentrates his energies upon his business affairs which are capably conducted. He has always lived in this community and is well known here, having a circle of friends almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

GARDINER McPHERSON.

Gardiner McPherson, the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres in Bronson township, is devoting his time and energies to its cultivation with gratifying results. His birth occurred in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 1st of March, 1849, his parents being Andrew and Elizabeth (McPherson) McPherson. His maternal grandfather was William McPherson. Andrew McPherson and his wife reared a family of three children, namely: Mary, Isabella and Gardiner.

The last named obtained his education in the common schools and early gained a practical knowledge of farming through the assistance which he rendered his father in the work of the fields. He has made his home upon the place where he now resides since 1860, the property coming into his possession at the time of his father's death. It is a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres, located in Bronson township, and the fields pay annual tribute to the care and labor which is bestowed upon them in bounteous harvests.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life Mr. McPherson chose Miss Orlinda Angell, a daughter of Ephraim and Eliza (Adams) Angell. Their union has been blessed with two children, Marian and Theresa.

Politically Mr. McPherson gives his allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party and has capably served in the capacity of township trustee for

a number of years. His fraternal relations are with the Maccabees. Having spent his entire life in this county, he has a wide acquaintance here and his salient characteristics are such as have gained for him the friendly regard and good will of all with whom he has been associated through either business or social relations.

WILLIAM D. BROOKS.

William D. Brooks, a prosperous, up-to-date and enterprising agriculturist of Wakeman township, is the owner of one hundred thirteen and one-half acres of rich and productive farming land. His father, Thomas Brooks, was born in Huttersfield, England, on the 23d of May, 1816, and came to the United States when about twenty-four years of age. In his native land, he had become familiar with the trades of a machinist and weaver. On landing in this country, he made his way to Cincinnati, Ohio, but after a short time removed to Akron, being employed in the woolen mills of that city for about two years. During that period he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Bernell, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Bernell. Her father, who was likewise an Englishman and was also employed in the Akron mills, subsequently returned to his native land and there passed away. On leaving, Thomas Brooks removed to Black river, near Lake Erie in Lorain county, where he purchased a farm and during the two years of his residence there his son William was born. He next took up his abode in Terryville, Erie county, Ohio, where he began the operation of a woolen mill for Speers & Ward. He operated this mill successfully for probably fifty years, under all the changes of ownership, continuing its management until the factory was finally destroyed by high flood. It was never rebuilt. The industry was one of great importance during its time, wool being carded and spun at the mill for families living for miles around, as in that early day the housewives wove their own goods. In connection with his other interests, Mr. Brooks also conducted a farm, purchasing land as opportunity offered. He first became interested in Huron county lands at the time he bought some property on the Butler road, it being now a part of the Edward Denman farm. He continued to reside at Terryville, however, until his sons were grown, when he established his home in Wakeman township on the farm where our subject now lives, the family moving into a log house which Mr. Brooks had previously erected. This district was still a forest region and wild game abounded, so that the sons found ample opportunity to indulge their love of hunting. The last deer known to have been killed in Wakeman township, was shot on the Brooks farm by DeWitt Ennis on the same day that the steam sawmill, more lately owned by French & Arnold, on the Butler road was put in operation. Soon after coming to the United States Thomas Brooks took out his naturalization papers and, though taking no active part in politics, he always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He was a man of progressive ideas and positive convictions and his influence was always given on the side of right, truth, justice and progress. Unto him and his wife were born two sons. Charles, who died some years ago, held a responsible position with the Big Four Railroad Company for fourteen years. He passed away in Cin-

cinnati and lies buried beside his parents in Wakeman cemetery. His son, William N. Brooks, is now a resident of Chicago. William D., the other son of Thomas Brooks, is now the only surviving member of his father's family.

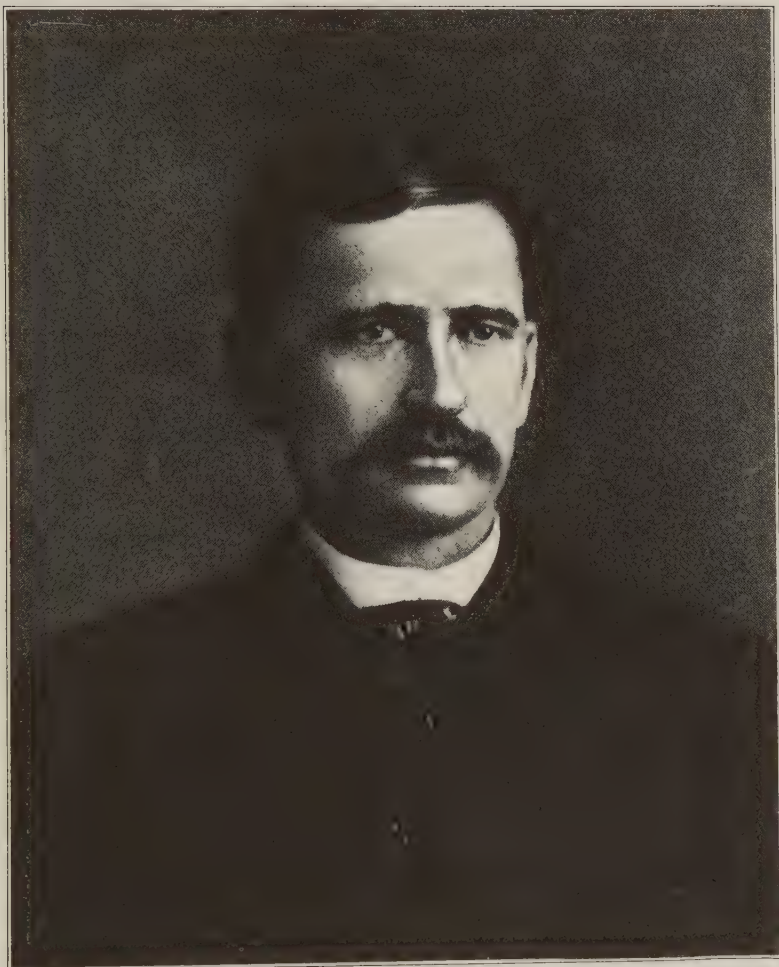
William D. Brooks obtained his education in the district schools of Terryville and Wakeman township. His time and energies have been given to general agricultural pursuits with excellent success and he is now in possession of part of the family estate, comprising one hundred thirteen and one-half acres of valuable land. The property is well improved and presents a most neat and thrifty appearance, indicating plainly the supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

In his political views, Mr. Brooks is a staunch republican and takes an active and helpful interest in all matters pertaining to the public welfare. He has capably served his fellow townsmen in the position of road supervisor and also as a school director. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, to the support of which he contributes liberally of his time and means. Having now resided in this county for more than fifty years, he is largely familiar with its annals from a pioneer period down to the present time. Not only has he seen this section of the state grow from a wild country, with only a few white inhabitants, to a rich agricultural country, containing thousands of good homes and acres of growing towns, inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he has participated in the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce a change which is so complete that it has come to be popularly referred to as magical.

JOSHUA B. BARNES.

Joshua B. Barnes was a prosperous farmer, a successful auctioneer and an exemplary citizen of Clarksfield township, where he was born September 27, 1848, a son of William and Helen (Bissel) Barnes. Both the Bissels and the Barnes were among those families that braved the hardships of pioneer life. The former of the two came from Danbury, Connecticut, and the latter from New York state, and both became prominent in their respective communities. William Barnes became widely known as a farmer who had won a comfortable position in life through hard work and was widely respected for his strong character.

Joshua B. Barnes grew up at home under the guidance of his parents, assisting in the ordinary work of the farm. During the winter months he attended the district schools of the county and always stood at the head his class and as the ringleader in all boyish pranks and sports. At the age of nineteen he went to Michigan, where he worked on the farms of relatives for nine years. At the end of that period he returned to Clarksfield township, this county, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-eight acres in the same neighborhood in which he had been born and in which his parents had lived for so many years. This was his home until his death. As soon as he took up his residence here he became a prominent figure in the farming community. Large harvests richly repaid his arduous toil, and the several business enterprises he undertook prospered



JOSHUA B. BARNES

in proportion. At the time of his death he possessed two hundred and sixty acres, all fine land to start with, but much improved through the excellent cultivation he practiced for so many years.

On the 21st of December, 1886, Mr. Barnes was married to Miss Belle Kemp, the daughter of John and Susanna (Wellburn) Kemp, of Camden, Lorain county, Ohio, who were married October 15, 1854. The father was born in Lancashire, England, March 20, 1821, and came to America with his brother at the age of thirty-one. He settled in Grafton, Ohio, where he engaged in farm work, and in a short time by industry and economy was able to save enough to buy a farm in Lorain county. When he arrived in this country he had almost no capital, but he attained to a comfortable position before his death. Two years after his arrival here he married and became the father of ten children, five of whom are living. They are Edgar, a commissioner of Lorain county; Mary; Belle; Lucy; and Mabel. William, Ezra, John, Charles, and Elizabeth, are all deceased. Mr. Kemp died November 13, 1901, and his wife passed away August 4, 1909.

To Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were born two children, Doris E. and Robert W., both of whom are living at home with their mother.

The republican party always found in Mr. Barnes a stanch supporter of its principles and he took an active interest in local politics, serving as township trustee and as a member of the board of education for a great many years. He also filled the office of justice of the peace for two terms and refused to again accept the office despite the great pressure brought to bear upon him by his many friends. He was probably the most popular man in the eastern part of the county.

Mr. Barnes was taken from this world February 20, 1909, and is mourned by a large number of persons, who through the intercourse of years had come to know and love the man for what he was. The success of his work procured the goodwill of his fellow-citizens, but his loyalty and fearless support of what he believed to be right drew to him stanch friends, and at the same time his ready wit and jovial good nature assured him a welcome in whatever gatherings he chanced to be. He was a hardworking, enterprising farmer and a successful auctioneer, and in all his business dealings was found to be upright and honorable, a man whose integrity of purpose in his intercourse with his fellows was never questioned. In fact, it may truthfully be said that he was a man who had no enemies. He was buried in the Methodist Episcopal cemetery at Clarksfield.

HENRY HEYMAN.

Among the successful agriculturists of Huron county, is numbered Henry Heyman who, through years of patient toil and economic living, has become the owner of a well improved farm in Lyme township, whereon he now resides. A native of Ohio, he was born in Sherman township, this county, December 2, 1871, a son of William A. and Jennett (Moore) Heyman, both of whom were born in Germany, the former in 1832 and the latter in 1836. William A. Heyman, when a mere boy of seventeen years, left his home and friends in the fatherland, to sail alone for America, seeking opportunities in the new world that did not exist in his

own country. Journeying overland until he came to the then wild prairies of Ohio, he decided to make his home in Sherman township, where he was married and lived the life of a hardy pioneer, for the first two years working out as a farm hand for farmers of that locality. However, having been industrious and persevering, at the end of that time, he was able to buy a farm of his own, consisting of two hundred and fifty-two acres which he himself cleared, adding improvements from year to year. On this farm, in Sherman township, he resided until his death which occurred in December, 1904, having survived his wife, the mother of our subject, for twenty-eight years. Respected and honored by his fellow citizens, during his life here, he filled many prominent township offices, having been justice of the peace for twenty years, trustee for three years and assessor for two years. His religious faith was that of the Reformed church and he gave liberally of his means for the support of a church of that denomination at Hunt's Corners. He was married twice and his home was blessed with thirteen children, namely: Charles; Mary, who married William Boehler; Emma, who became the wife of John Miller; David; Benjamin; Adam; William; Henry; Isaac; Jacob; Clara; and two, a half brother and sister who died in infancy.

Henry Heyman attended the district schools of Sherman township, where he resided with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age, assisting his father in the fields in the summer seasons. When he became of age, he started out to earn his own living, working for monthly wages on different farms of that locality for three years, having carefully saved his earnings until he was able to rent a small farm of fifty-seven acres which, after eight years of persevering labor and careful expenditure, he was enabled to buy, having erected thereon a comfortable home, barn and outbuildings for the shelter of his grain and stock.

On Thanksgiving Day, of the year 1891, was celebrated the marriage of Henry Heyman and Alma Tickner. Mrs. Heyman was born in Canada and is a daughter of Eugene and Nancy Tickner, who later made their home at Weaver's Corners. By her marriage she has become the mother of seven children: Harley, Orvil, Ila, Gordon, Lloyd, Viola and one child who is yet an infant. Mr. Heyman engages in general farming and also teaming to some extent. The family attend the Lutheran church of which he is a member. A life of industry and upright character, entitle him to honorable mention with the leading agriculturists of Lyme township.

JOSEPH FISHER.

Joseph Fisher, devoting his time and energies to the work of general farming, is the owner of a well improved tract of seventy acres in Ridgefield township, on which he makes his home. His birth occurred in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 25th of March, 1855, his parents being Andrew and Stephenia (Rimmley) Fisher, both of whom were natives of Germany. It was in 1848 that the father crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up his abode in Peru township, this county, and opening a blacksmith shop at Macksville. He thus remained an active factor in the industrial interests of the county until the

time of his demise, passing away when he had attained the age of sixty-three years. His wife had accompanied her parents on their emigration to the new world in 1848, the family home being established in Peru township, this county. She was sixty-seven years of age at the time she was called to her final rest and left an extensive circle of friends to mourn her death. By her marriage, she had become the mother of eight children, namely: Frances, who is the widow of Joseph Shaffer; Lawrence; Joseph, of this review; Andrew; Lanie, the wife of Joseph Weisenburger; Albert; Rosie, who is the wife of George Smith; and Minnie, who gave her hand in marriage to Russell Page.

In the acquirement of an education Joseph Fisher attended school at Macksville and also spent one year in the high school at Norwalk. He continued a resident of Macksville until nineteen years of age and since that time has carried on general agricultural pursuits in Ridgefield township, where he owns a rich and productive tract of land of seventy acres. As the years have gone by, he has placed many substantial improvements on the property and in the conduct of his farming interests, has won a measure of success that entitles him to recognition among the prosperous, progressive and enterprising citizens of the community.

On the 9th of October, 1883, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Gefell, who was born in this county in May, 1856, and is a daughter of Hugo and Josephine Gefell, of this county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have been born six children: Mary; William, who wedded Miss Rose Cramer and makes his home in Ridgefield township; Florence; Maud; Albert; and Robert. Fraternally, Mr. Fisher is identified with the Red Men at Norwalk. Both he and his wife have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives, having ever displayed those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awakens admiration and regard.

JOHN GATES.

John Gates, a resident farmer of Peru township, who owns and cultivates one hundred and fifty-nine acres of fine land, was born in Sherman township on the 17th of March, 1859, his parents being Joseph and Elizabeth Gates, both of whom were natives of Germany. In that country, they were reared and married and came to Huron county, Ohio, about two years later. They settled first in Sherman township, where they bought thirty acres of land, and to this they added from time to time as their financial resources increased, until at his death Joseph Gates was the owner of a valuable tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He died when seventy-nine years of age, while his wife departed this life at the age of sixty-six years. They were both consistent members of the Catholic church of Sherman township and all who knew them esteemed them for their many sterling traits of character. Their family numbered eight children, as follows: Joe, residing in Norwalk township; Benjamin, who makes his home in Sherman township; Michael, also of Sherman township; John, of this review; Kathryn, the wife of John Kopping, of Norwich township; Barbara, the wife of George Mey-

ers, of Norwich township; May, who married Fred Perry and resides in Peru township; and Elizabeth, the deceased wife of Frank Meyers.

John Gates was born and reared in Sherman township and there lived until he attained the age of forty-two years. In his youthful days, he attended the district and German schools and through the periods of vacation, was trained in the work of the farm, and throughout his entire life, he has carried on agricultural pursuits. He first bought one hundred acres of land in Sherman township and lived thereon for about twelve years. He then sold forty-three acres of the tract and made investment in the farm on which he now resides, purchasing the property from George Baker. He has made many improvements on the place in the intervening years and in 1907, erected a large frame residence which is conveniently arranged and tastefully furnished.

In the fall of 1889, Mr. Gates sought a companion and helpmate for the journey of life and took to his new home as his wife Miss Rose Cooper, a daughter of Peter and Mary (Myers) Cooper, of Sherman township. Her parents are still living in that township, where they reared their family of five children, Rose, Cora, Emma, Alfred and Ida, who died at the age of eight years. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gates was blessed with three children, Olive, Carl and Wilma, all yet at home.

Mr. Gates is a prominent, active and helpful member of the Catholic church of Sherman township and his life is in harmony with his professions. His attention and energies are largely given to his general farming interests and what he has accomplished represents the fit utilization of his innate powers and talents. He has always worked diligently and persistently to attain the success which he is now enjoying and which places him with the representative agriculturists of the county.

C. S. BATEHAM.

One of the enterprises of highest character in Norwalk is the photograph studio of C. S. Bateham, whose standing in his profession is established not only by the consensus of public opinion, but also by his professional brethren who have accorded him high honors in their ranks. A native of Ohio, Mr. Bateham was born in Painesville, July 31, 1868. His father, M. B. Bateham, was a native of England and when a young man, came to the United States with his parents. He moved to Columbus in 1845, where he owned and edited the Ohio Cultivator and was not only successful and prominent in business circles, but also became well known in connection with the movements for the advancement of horticultural interests in the state and served as secretary of the Ohio Horticultural Society from its beginning, until his death in 1880. His wife who bore the maiden name of Josephine Penfield, spent the last seventeen years of her life lecturing and writing, as a department superintendent of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union.

While spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, C. S. Bateham pursued his education in the public schools of Painesville and afterward took up the study of photography. He spent four years as a representative of the profession

in Elyria and in January, 1891, came to Norwalk, purchasing the gallery of Mr. Park, the former owner of the old Edmondson gallery. At this place, Mr. Bateham has since conducted his studio, which is now well equipped for the conduct of the business in accordance with the most modern processes, inventions and improvements. In 1896, he leased a store room in connection with his studio and has since conducted an art store in addition to his photographic work. His store is filled with carefully selected pictures and a variety of frames that would be a credit to many a larger city. His own artistic nature has been cultivated and with strong appreciation of the value of light and shade, of pose and color, he is doing excellent portrait work, securing results which are both natural and artistic. He has always been in a foremost place in the work for the advancement and elevation of photography and for many years, he filled various offices in the Ohio-Michigan Photographers Association, acting for two years as its president. In 1908 he was one of the organizers of the Professional Photographers Society, of Ohio, and was chosen its first president, which position he is now filling. He has won many medals for his work at state and national photographers' conventions and has a splendid studio, thoroughly modern in every particular. The work which he does is most attractive and his ability brings him an extensive and growing patronage.

While his professional duties make heavy demands upon his energies, Mr. Bateham also finds time for active and helpful cooperation in public affairs. He is one of the vice-presidents of the Chamber of Commerce, is greatly interested in the city's welfare and manifests a most patriotic spirit in his devotion to the public good.

In 1890, Mr. Bateham was married in Elyria, Ohio, to Miss Katharine Haines, a daughter of Dr. E. P. Haines, of that city, and they have two sons, Boyd E., born July 12, 1894; and Evander P., born June 28, 1897. Mr. Bateham is a Knight Templar Mason and is identified with other fraternal and social organizations. He is a man of unfailing courtesy and his geniality, kindness and deference for the opinions of others, have won for him the unqualified respect of all with whom he has come in contact.

BYRON J. ERNSBERGER.

Byron J. Ernsberger, a successful representative of the agricultural interests of Huron county, owning and operating an excellent farm of one hundred and ninety acres in Bronson township, is a native son of the county, his birth having here occurred on the 22d of December, 1858. His parents, Jacob and Sarah A. (Wheeler) Ernsberger, were natives of New York and Huron county, Ohio, respectively. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Edward Wheeler. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Ernsberger reared the following children: Andrew, Albert, John D., David E., Byron J. and Emma.

Byron J. Ernsberger has made his home on his present farm in Bronson township, since 1881 and, having brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, annually harvests good crops from which he derives a gratifying income. He is

not only progressive, but also thoroughly practical in his methods and what he undertakes, he carries forward to successful completion.

On the 26th of October, 1880, Mr. Ernsberger was united in marriage to Miss Anna Park, who was born in 1860, a daughter of Joseph and Martha (Pilgrim) Park. Mr. and Mrs. Park, who were born in the years 1828 and 1835 respectively, reared a family of four children, namely: Anna, Charlie, Della and Jay. Mr. and Mrs. Ernsberger have two children: Clara, now the wife of David Mead; and Park.

Mr. Ernsberger exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, the principles of which he believes are most conducive to good government. His religious faith connects him with the Presbyterian church, while fraternally he has been identified with the Maccabees for many years. He has spent his entire life in this county and is therefore widely and favorably known, commanding the high regard of all with whom he has been associated.

HUGH A. McDONALD.

Hugh A. McDonald, a well known and successful agriculturist of Bronson township, is also the treasurer and a director of the Ohio Mutual Tornado, Cyclone & Windstorm Association. His birth occurred in the house where he still resides, his natal day being June 6, 1876. His parents were Angus and Harriett Elizabeth (Adriance) McDonald, the former born in Indiana in 1846, while the latter's birth occurred in the state of New York in 1851. Roger McDonald, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born on the Isle of Skye in Scotland in 1824 and emigrated to the United States when about nineteen years of age, taking up his abode in Huron county, Ohio. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Charlotte Parrott, was born in England about 1823. The maternal grandparents of Hugh A. McDonald were James and Maria (Snyder) Adriance, both of whom were natives of New York. Mr. McDonald of this review has but one sister, Elnora V.

Hugh A. McDonald has always continued to reside in Bronson township in the house where he was born, with the exception of four years while attending school at Norwalk, and throughout his entire business career has been successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits. He is likewise serving as the treasurer and a director of the Ohio Mutual Tornado, Cyclone & Windstorm Association and for seven years was the secretary of the Huron County Farmers Mutual Fire Association, but resigned the latter office in the spring of 1909. In all of his business affairs he is alert and enterprising and has gained favorable recognition as one of the prosperous, energetic and progressive citizens of his native county.

On the 26th of October, 1897, Mr. McDonald was united in marriage to Miss Rose Furniss, who was born in August, 1874, her parents being William F. and Barbena (Hildebrand) Furniss, the former a native of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Furniss reared a family of nine children, namely: Charles F., Gustavus, John D., Rose, Lucy, Emma, Anna, Lillian and Edith. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Mc-



H. A. McDONALD AND FAMILY

Donald has been blessed with three children: Roger Bruce, who was born May 19, 1899; Furniss Angus, whose birth occurred on the 24th of April, 1904; and Donald, whose natal day was May 16, 1908.

In the fall of 19¹⁸ Mr. McDonald was elected to the office of county commissioner on the democratic ticket by about nine hundred votes. When taking into consideration the fact that this county has a normal republican majority of from nine to twelve hundred, it will be seen that he possesses in an unusual degree the confidence and trust of his fellow townsmen. Fraternally he is identified with the Maccabees and the Grange. The rules which govern his conduct and shape his life are such as command respect and admiration in every land and clime, and in the community where his entire life has been spent Hugh A. McDonald is honored and esteemed by all who know him.

A. M. BEATTIE.

It is a well known fact that members of the bar have been more prominent in public life than any other class of citizens. The reason of this is not far to seek for the qualities that enable them to win success in practice before the courts also qualify them for leadership in other directions. Mr. Beattie is by no means a man in public life in the sense that he seeks political preferment, for the honors and emoluments of office yet nevertheless he has done not a little to mold public thought and action, his opinions frequently constituting the influencing force in affairs which are of vital importance to Norwalk.

Born in Ashland county, Ohio, on the 10th of June, 1853, his parents were John and Isabel (Thom) Beattie, both of whom were natives of Scotland. The father came to the United States and located in Ashland county in 1836, while the following year witnessed the arrival of the lady whom he afterward made his wife. He became a successful, prominent and influential farmer and continued to engage in general agricultural pursuits until his death which occurred January 8, 1883, when he was sixty-eight years of age. In his family were eleven children.

A. M. Beattie, the fifth in order of birth, supplemented his public-school course by study in the Normal School. He afterward engaged in teaching for a number of years and with desire to become a member of the bar, he took up the study of law in the office and under the direction of Judge Curtiss, of Ashland. Subsequently, he pursued a course in law in the State University of Indiana and was graduated with the class of 1877. The following year, he located for practice in New London, Ohio, where he formed a partnership under the name of Laning & Beattie. This connection was dissolved in 1882, and Mr. Beattie continued alone until 1884, when he was elected clerk of the county court and so served for six years. On the expiration of that period, he resumed active practice and has become one of the leading attorneys of the county. His knowledge of the law is comprehensive and exact and his application of legal principles correct. In the work of the office, which must always precede a strong presentation of a case in the courts, he prepares for defense as well as attack, viewing his cause from

every possible standpoint. He is, therefore, never surprised by some unexpected attack and counsel and court listen to him with attention, knowing that there are few, if any, fallacies in his argument. Aside from his practice, he has also been connected with business and financial affairs of this city. He became one of the organizers of the Norwalk Steel Company, an important manufacturing enterprise of this city.

On the 15th of April, 1879, Mr. Beattie was married to Miss Dora Sullivan and they have three sons and two daughters: Blanche, Anna, Walter, Homer and Arthur. Mrs. Beattie was born in Pennsylvania, February 3, 1854, and during her girlhood accompanied her parents to Ohio. She was a daughter of Josiah and Phoebe A. (Hopkins) Sullivan, both of whom were born in the state of New York in 1825. Removing westward, they settled in Ashtabula county, but both are now deceased, and the mother of Mr. Beattie passed away April 2, 1909.

Aside from business and home relations, Mr. Beattie finds time for co-operation in public affairs and has served for many years as treasurer of the board of education, being greatly interested in affairs relative to the progress and improvement of the schools. His co-operation in other lines has also been of equal value for he never refuses to lend his aid and influence when he believes the best interests of the community at large are involved.

FRED OPPERMAN.

The farming interests of Lyme township find a worthy representative in Fred Opperman, who owns and cultivates two hundred and sixty-five acres of land, constituting one of the fine farms of the community. It is improved with all modern conveniences and constitutes one of the attractive features of the landscape in which it is located. The owner is therefore justly accounted one of the progressive agriculturists of the community. He was born in Germany on the 6th of November, 1838, and is a son of William and Philemina Opperman, both of whom died in the fatherland.

Fred Opperman spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native country, having attained his majority ere he bade adieu to his friends and European home and sailed for America in 1864. He lived with his father-in-law and mother-in-law, William and Mary Margaret Opperman, who were old settlers, and married their daughter, Minnie on the 29th of November, 1865. They became the parents of eight children. Mary M., the eldest, died at the age of one year and eight months. William is the second of the family. Albert and August are both deceased. The latter had a very sudden death when only fifteen years of age. He was a bright young man and had been to town with his father. On their return, when the team came to the railroad crossing, the horses refused to cross on account of cars standing there and August Opperman got out of the buggy to lead them across the car tracks. While so doing, he was taken ill and died in a few moments. Gustave, the next member of the family, died at the age of two years. Pauline is the wife of E. Leibolt, a resident of Attica, Ohio, and they have four children: Walter, Viva, Wells and Bendina. Lydia, the next member of the

family, lives at home. The youngest child died in infancy. William Opperman, who is the second member of the family, is also at home and operates the farm. The mother, Mrs. Opperman, came to this county at the age of thirteen years with her parents who settled at Hunt's Corners but afterward removed to the farm upon which Mr. and Mrs. Opperman now reside. Her father purchased here one hundred acres of land and for seven years lived in an old log house, but subsequently he erected a large commodious residence and improved the farm, making it a valuable property. He was born in 1802 and died in 1874. His wife, whose birth occurred in 1805, passed away in 1894, both spending their last days in what is now the Opperman residence. They were the parents of four children: Philip, Mary, Sophia and Elizabeth, all of whom are now living.

The Opperman family are all members of the Lutheran church of Lyme township and are worthy and respected citizens, enjoying in large measure the confidence, good will and high regard of all with whom they have come in contact.

E. K. FISHER.

E. K. Fisher is now well known in Norwalk as a representative of real estate interests but for many years was identified with mercantile pursuits. He has lived in the county from the age of six years and has ever been greatly interested in its growth and progress, co-operating in many of its measures for the public good, while at the same time, he has carefully managed his business affairs. A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Fisher was born in Northumberland county on the 22d of August, 1849. His father, Isaac D. Fisher, was a native of New Jersey and having arrived at years of maturity, he was married in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, to Miss Keturah Roadarmel, a native of the Keystone state. They continued to reside there for several years, but in 1855, removed westward to Huron county, Ohio, at which time their family consisted of four sons and one daughter. They lived for a year in Lyme township and then removed to Bronson township, settling on the Judge Sears farm. The father purchased one hundred and ninety-three acres of land, for which he paid forty-two dollars per acre. He was in comfortable financial circumstances at the time of his arrival and always prospered in his undertakings here. He died in 1861, at the age of forty-nine years, while his widow long survived him, passing away in 1895. The brothers and sisters of our subject were: Josiah R.; Amasa B.; Simon Peter, now deceased; Eugene K.; William B.; Rosanna, now Mrs. Nichols; Mrs. Keturah Snyder; and Mary E., now Mrs. Stiles. With the exception of Simon Peter, all are yet living. William B. is a minister of the Congregational church, located in Kansas.

E. K. Fisher was but six years of age at the time of the removal westward to Ohio and in the district schools, he acquired his early education, while later, he attended the Norwalk high school and the Normal School at Milan, Ohio. His own education completed, he engaged in teaching for eight years in the district schools, following that profession through the winter season, while in the summer months he worked at farm labor. Subsequently, he engaged in farming on his own account, purchasing a half interest in the old homestead where he remained

for a year. He then sold out and removed to Townsend township where he engaged in farming for six years, while later he established his home in Norwalk township and engaged in the cultivation of his farm there until 1897. In that year, he abandoned agricultural pursuits and established his home in the city. Here, in 1900, he turned his attention to the real estate business and is still identified with the purchase and sale of property, both for himself and others. He has negotiated many important realty transfers and is thoroughly conversant with the valuation of property and knows what is upon the market.

In 1873 Mr. Fisher was united in marriage to Miss Mary Taylor, who died in 1900. In 1902 he wedded Miss Alice L. Young, a native of Huron county and a representative of one of the old families here. Her father, Gardner Young, was one of the early settlers in this part of the state. At the time of her marriage Mrs. Fisher was matron of the Children's Home in Norwalk. Mr. Fisher has four children: Arthur E., Alfred B., Clayton E. and Retta L., now Mrs. Ramseyer.

Mr. Fisher is a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Methodist church—associations which indicate much of the nature of his interests and the principles which govern his conduct. He has lived a busy, active and useful life and whatever success he has achieved and enjoyed, has come as the direct and merited reward of his own labors.

HIRAM D. DRAKE.

Hiram D. Drake, who is successfully operating seventy acres of land in Ridgefield township, Huron county, is a native of this county, his birth having occurred on the farm upon which he now resides July 7, 1854. He is a son of Salmon and Cynthia (Dickey) Drake, the former a native of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, born in 1827. In 1846, he came to Ohio, settling at Monroeville, where he engaged in carpentering for some time. In 1849 he removed to the farm which is now in the possession of the subject of this review, and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until his demise, the only interruption in his business career occurring in 1864, when, as a member of a one hundred day company, he was called out to serve in the Civil war. In 1849 he married Miss Cynthia Dickey, whose entire life, from the age of two years, was passed on the farm upon which our subject was born. Her father, Thomas Dickey, was one of the early settlers of this county, coming to Ohio in 1819, shortly after which he was married and removed to Readtown. In 1823 he returned to this county and located upon the present Drake homestead. He was a soldier of the war of 1812 and for a number of years served as justice of the peace of Ridgefield township. He held membership in the Methodist church, in the faith of which he passed away in 1882 at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. Salmon Drake, who belonged to the Disciple church, was called to his final rest on the 3d of April, 1877, while his wife survived until 1900. In their family were eight children, namely: Eliza J., the wife of George Klopfenstein; Hiram D., of this review; Charles W.; Emmagene, the wife of

George J. Roe; J. A.; Georgia, who wedded H. C. Roadarmel; Sterry A.; and Ira, deceased.

Hiram D. Drake, whose entire life, with the exception of a few years, has been spent on his present farm, was reared to farm life and acquired his early education in the district schools of the neighborhood. He later supplemented this training by a course at the normal school at Milan and after leaving school was engaged in teaching for two seasons. Putting aside professional life, however, he took up agricultural pursuits, in which he has since been continually engaged. He purchased the home farm from the other heirs and has since directed his efforts toward its further cultivation and improvement. It is an excellent property in the midst of which, in 1886, he erected a fine large home, while in 1885 he built a substantial barn and has equipped the place with other outbuildings and with all of the modern devices and accessories intended to facilitate the work of the farm. It is a model farm of the nineteenth century and Mr. Drake, who is giving his time and attention to general agriculture, is meeting with most gratifying prosperity.

On the 23d of March, 1887, Mr. Drake was united in marriage to Miss Blanch Killey, a daughter of Robert and Mary Killey, of Ottawa county, Ohio, and this union has been blessed with two children: Louis Earl, born December 29, 1888; and Eric R., born November 27, 1892, both of whom are still at home. Mr. Drake is a member of the Grangers and is widely recognized as a loyal and public-spirited citizen. In this community, where his entire life has been spent, he has gained a wide acquaintance and the fact that his list of friends is almost coextensive with his list of acquaintances is an indication that his salient characteristics are such as command the respect, confidence and good will of all with whom he is associated.

LISTON GREEN.

The farming interests of Peru township find a worthy representative in Liston Green, who derives a substantial income from a farm of eighty-three acres on which he lives. He was born in a log house in Richland county, Ohio, October 8, 1849, and is a son of Andrew and Maria (Taylor) Green. His father was born in the state of New York and soon after his marriage removed to Richland county, where they lived for about six years. On the expiration of that period they came to Huron county and settled near New Haven, where Andrew Green purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land. He operated that farm for a time but afterward removed to Huron township and took up his abode near the farm upon which his son Liston now resides, farming a tract of one hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land, which he transformed into a valuable and highly cultivated farm. He continued to reside upon that place until his death, which occurred in 1892, when he had reached the age of seventy-eight years. His wife survived him for about sixteen years and died April 11, 1908. They were the parents of five children, as follows: Caroline, the wife of David Sissinger, of Richland county, by whom she has two children, Mrs. William White and Alvin; Frank, who died in the army at the age of twenty years; Emma, who married

George Lawrence of Michigan, by whom she has three children, Clara, Martin and one who died in infancy; Liston, of this review; and Charles who resides in Fairfield township.

In taking up the personal history of Liston Green, we present to our readers the life record of one who is well and favorably known in Huron county where he has lived from the age of one year, his parents removing to this county during his infancy. At the usual age he began his education as a pupil of the district schools and as the years have gone by he has continued in active identification with agricultural interests. He was early trained to the work of the fields, learned the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops and in his farm work has met with substantial and well merited success. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Maggie Baxter, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Baxter, the wedding being celebrated on the 15th of April, 1886. They became the parents of three children, but the eldest died in infancy, the others being Bertha and Clarence, who are yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Green has resided upon his present farm for about twenty-eight years, having purchased the property from John Trott. In the interim, he has made a number of improvements of a substantial character. He has torn down four old log houses on the place and built two new farm dwellings, and his other improvements are of a modern kind. His first house was set fire by an enemy, soon after he took possession of the place, and was burned to the ground together with all of the household effects, while the family was absent. Not allowing this to discourage him he rebuilt and as the years have gone by has prospered in his undertakings. He now carries on general farming with good success and his place presents a most neat and attractive appearance. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he has served as a school director for many years, but otherwise has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his farming interests, which are capably managed and are now bringing him in good returns.

PHILO STONE.

He who forms the subject of this review is a worthy representative of a name which, from early pioneer times, has stood as a synonym for excellent citizenship and honorable, upright manhood in Huron county. He was born in Clarksfield township, Huron county, on the 12th of June, 1849, a son of Ezra W. and Maria (Hayes) Stone, who were both born in this county. The grandfathers, Daniel Stone and Surgess Hayes, however, were natives of Connecticut and came to Ohio among the early settlers and here cast in their lot with the pioneers. The land was still to a large extent covered by the primeval forest and the work of transformation had scarcely been begun. With characteristic energy, however, they joined in the work of improvement and became prominent and influential citizens in the community in which they resided. Ezra W. Stone, the father of our subject, was also identified with agricultural pursuits and became one of the progressive and substantial farmers of his time. He died very suddenly in 1861 from



MR. AND MRS. PHILO STONE

heart failure, while driving sheep along the highway, but his wife survived until February, 1907. In their family were four sons and one daughter, namely: Philo; Albert; Elsie, who wedded Elmer Henry; John; and Eugene. All are yet living.

Reared to farm life, Philo Stone spent the years of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, assisting in the work of the fields and during the winter months pursuing his education in the public schools of Clarksfield. He remained at home until his marriage, and in the meantime he received excellent training under the direction of his father, learning lessons concerning the value of industry, energy and perseverance. That his early training was thorough and comprehensive is indicated in the success which came to him later in life. After his marriage he took up agricultural pursuits on his own account, locating in the eastern part of Clarksfield township, and in this connection he was actively engaged for twenty-five years. During that period he directed his efforts to general farming, raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation. In 1904 he left the farm and removed to the village of Clarksfield, where he has since resided. He still owns two hundred and sixty acres of fine farming property in Clarksfield township, however, and continues to engage in the stock business, which for many years he carried on in connection with his agricultural pursuits. He is an extensive buyer and shipper of stock and also deals largely in wool. In all of the various phases of his business he has been eminently successful, ranking among the substantial and prosperous business men of the township. He has acquired a very handsome competence which enables him to live practically retired, with the exception of the supervision of his livestock interests, enjoying all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

It was on the 31st of December, 1872, that Mr. Stone was united in marriage to Miss Ida J. Rowland, a daughter of Ezra and Catherine (Snook) Rowland. She represents a family which has been very prominent in the affairs of Clarksfield township since early pioneer days, its descendants being very numerous in this district. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stone has been blessed with one son, William H., a prosperous and well known farmer of this township. He was married on the 10th of January, 1900, to Miss Anna O'Hara, a daughter of John and Celia O'Hara, of Clarksfield township, who came originally from Ireland, and unto this union has been born one son, Harry E. William H. Stone is a young man of excellent character, who stands high in the community in which he resides.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Stone has given stalwart allegiance to the democracy and has always been very actively interested in all matters of public note, keeping well informed upon the important questions and issues of the day. He has been a trustee of Clarksfield township for many years and has also served as a member of the district board of education. One of his salient characteristics is his public-spirited citizenship, for at all times he is strong in his advocacy of reform and improvement, lending his aid and influence to all measures tending to promote the general welfare and uplift humanity. Although he has achieved prosperity which ranks him ahead of many of his associates in the business world, nevertheless the most envious could not grudge him his success, so honorably has it been won. Square and upright in all his dealings with his fellowmen, throughout his entire business career there has been not a

single esoteric phase, and the consensus of public opinion accords him a foremost place among the valued citizens of Clarksfield township, while he is recognized as a worthy representative of one of the most highly respected families known in the annals of this township.

H. FULSTOW, D. V. S.

H. Fulstow, the most successful veterinary surgeon practicing in Norwalk, was born in Lincolnshire, England, March 11, 1861. His father, John Dickinson Fulstow, was a native of Lincolnshire and a representative of one of the old families there. Having arrived at years of maturity, he married Sarah Huteson, likewise a native of that county. They began their domestic life in Lincolnshire, where they remained until 1879, when they crossed the Atlantic to the new world, settling in Greenwich township, Huron county, where the father engaged in farming. He had previously devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits in his native country and for a long period he was identified with the tiling of the soil in the new world. He is now living retired in the village of Greenwich, while his wife passed away in 1907.

Dr. Fulstow is indebted to the country schools of England for the early education which he acquired, while later, he attended a boarding school at Gainsborough in Lincolnshire. He was a young man of eighteen years when he accompanied his parents on the trip across the Atlantic to the new world, and on reaching this county he worked on a stock farm for seven years, engaged with various duties in the care of the stock. His taste has always been in that direction and he has never worked in any other line. He commenced the study of veterinary surgery in 1890, in the Ontario Veterinary College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1892. In 1904 he pursued a post-graduate course in the Chicago Veterinary College. Following his graduation he came to Norwalk, where he began practice and has since been located, today having the leading practice of the county. His business, too, extends to several adjacent counties for his professional skill and ability have made him widely known.

In public affairs Dr. Fulstow is also quite prominent and active. He has served as a member of the city council for two years and has been a member of the board of health for sixteen years. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he always keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day.

On the 11th of July, 1888, Dr. Fulstow was married to Miss Lina Frayer, a daughter of Ambrose Frayer and a native of Ripley, Huron county. Mr. Frayer is one of the old settlers and has been a prominent man of affairs, closely connected with banking and other business interests in Greenwich, the city profiting by his enterprise, which has been a factor in its general progress. Dr. and Mrs. Fulstow have become parents of two children: Phil, now studying veterinary surgery at the University of Pennsylvania; and Margie. Dr. Fulstow is an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Mount Vernon Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and to Huron Chapter, R. A. M. He is a member of the Ohio

Society of Comparative Medicine, an association composed of medical doctors and veterinarians, and he was honored with the presidency of the Ohio State Veterinary Association in 1908, which indicates his high standing in that field of labor which he has chosen as a life work.

ISAAC HEYMAN.

Isaac Heyman, a representative farmer of Lyme township, Huron county, is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land on which he resides and which he has converted into rich and productive fields that annually yield large harvests. He was born in Sherman township, this county, on the 17th of April, 1870, and is a son of William A. and Jennett (Moore) Heyman, both of whom were born in Germany, the former in 1832 and the latter in 1836. William A. Heyman, when a mere boy of seventeen years, left his home and friends in the fatherland to sail alone for America, seeking opportunities in the new world that did not exist in his own country. Journeying overland until he came to Ohio, he decided to make his home in Sherman township, where he was married and lived the life of a hardy pioneer, for the first two years working out as a farm hand for farmers of that locality. However, having been industrious and persevering, at the end of that time he was able to buy a farm of his own, consisting of two hundred and fifty-two acres, which he himself cleared, adding improvements from year to year. On this farm in Sherman township, he resided until his death which occurred in December, 1904, having survived his wife, the mother of our subject, for twenty-eight years. Respected and honored by his fellow citizens, during his life here he filled many prominent township offices, having been justice of the peace for twenty years, trustee for three years and assessor for two years. His religious faith was that of the Reformed church and he gave liberally of his means for the support of a church of that denomination at Hunt's Corners. He was married twice and his home was blessed with thirteen children, namely: Charles; Mary, who married William Boehler; Emma, who became the wife of Henry Bishop; David; Benjamin; Adam; William; Henry; Isaac; Jacob; Clara; and two, a brother and sister, who died in infancy.

Isaac Heyman continued to reside in Sherman township until twenty-seven years of age and in his youthful days attended the district schools, thus acquiring a good practical English education. He has always been a farmer and his early training along that line well qualified him to carry on farm work when he started out in life on his own account. He married Miss Rosa Leiber, a daughter of Philip and Philemina Leiber, both of whom were natives of Germany and became early settlers of Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio. It was on the 27th of February, 1895, at Bellevue, Ohio, that Isaac Heyman was married, after which he began his domestic life on the old homestead farm in Sherman township, where he remained for about two years. On the expiration of that period, he removed to the farm in Lyme township, on which he now resides. He first rented the land from his father, but in 1900, he purchased sixty acres and in 1904, purchased sixty acres more from J. J. Swaby. Upon the place he made a number of im-

provements, erected a large barn and keeps all of his buildings in good repair, the neat and thrifty appearance of his place indicating his careful supervision.

Mrs. Heyman was born in Lyme township, May 17, 1874. Her parents also came from Germany, arriving about 1859 and settled in Huron county. They had a family of nine children: Charles, Elizabeth, Louis, Adolph, Henry, Minnie, Emma, Louise and Rosa. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Heyman has been blessed by five children: Robert, Elsie, Irene, Myrtle and Juanita, all born in the home in which they now reside with the exception of the eldest.

Mr. Heyman is a member of the Eagles lodge at Bellevue. He also belongs to the Lutheran church in Lyme township and has been active in community affairs, serving as school director and as road supervisor. Farming, however, has been his real life work and he carries on general agricultural pursuits, owning a fine tract of land which he carefully cultivates and improves in accordance with the most modern ideas of farming.

AMBROSE B. SMITH.

Ambrose B. Smith, diligent and persistent in his business affairs, his capable management bringing him substantial success, is now the owner of eighty acres of good farm land in Peru township. He was born in this county on the 13th of March, 1854, at the family home in Greenfield township, his parents being Marcus P. and Liddie (Coy) Smith. The paternal grandfather, George Smith, was numbered among the earliest settlers of the county and became a factor in the pioneer development of this part of the state. He was killed by the caving in of a well in which he was working on the old Simmons' farm.

Marcus P. Smith was born in 1833, and spent the greater part of his life in Peru township. In his youthful days he shared in all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life and the period of his minority was one of earnest toil for he assisted in the development and cultivation of a new farm. He always carried on general agricultural pursuits as a life work and also engaged in threshing. He was ever a busy and active man, continuing his identification with farming interests until his death in 1895. His wife, who was born in Peru township in 1830, died in 1903. She was a daughter of Henry D. Coy, who was born June 15, 1800, and came to Peru township in 1818 with his father-in-law, Asa Wilson, who owned the place upon which Ambrose B. Smith now resides. It was upon this farm that Henry D. Coy passed away in April, 1892. His daughter by her marriage to Mr. Smith became the mother of six children: Ambrose B.; Hattie, who died in childhood; Edward, who is living in Fairfield township; Jennie, the wife of William Linder, residing in Havana, Ohio; Alice, the deceased wife of Fred Mitchell; and John M., who is living in Greenfield township.

Ambrose B. Smith has always lived within five miles of the farm on which he now resides. He attended the district schools in his youthful days and in the periods of vacation assisted more and more largely in the work of the fields as his age and strength increased. He has been connected with farming and threshing all his life and has also worked at the carpenter's trade. His skill in this direction enabled him to erect all of the buildings upon his farm, and he has likewise assisted in the construction of many others in this vicinity. His life has been one of diligence and well directed thrift. He purchased the farm from his

father and has made it a valuable property, lacking in none of the accessories and conveniences of the model farm of the twentieth century.

On the 8th of December, 1876, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Alice Jones, a daughter of Isaac and Mary Jones, of Weston, Wood county, Ohio. She died July 28, 1879, and for his second wife Mr. Smith chose Elizabeth J. Schild, a daughter of George Schild, of this county. They were married March 11, 1880, and have two children: Elnora M., now the wife of Amos Eastman, of Peru township; and Herman E., who is living on the home place.

Mr. Smith has been somewhat active in community interests. He served as justice of the peace for two terms and as assessor for two terms, being elected on the republican ticket. He has also been a member of the school board. He held membership with the Knights of the Maccabees at Havana until the tent of that place went out of existence. His time and energies, however, have largely been concentrated upon his farm and its interests, and his work has made him one of the substantial agriculturists of this part of the state.

JOSEPH D. FREY.

Among the successful business men of Norwalk is numbered Joseph D. Frey, a dealer in coal, ice and concrete blocks. In that department of trade he has built up a good business and his enterprising and progressive business methods rank him with the leading representatives of commercial interests here. He started upon the journey of life, December 23, 1866, in Ridgefield township, his parents being Benedict and Philomena (Krabach) Frey. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Frey, a native of Switzerland, came to America in 1858 and, on reaching Huron county, purchased forty acres of land, to which he added from time to time as his financial resources increased, until he had one hundred and seven acres. Both he and his wife died on the old homestead farm. Their son, Benedict Frey, was born in Switzerland, and was thirteen years of age when, in 1851, he bade adieu to friends and native land and with his parents came to the United States. They made their way direct to Ridgefield township, Huron county, and Benedict Frey assisted in the task of developing and improving his father's farm, eventually came into possession of the property and made it his home until his death in 1896. He married Philomena Krabach, who was born in Ridgefield township, a daughter of Dennis Krabach, who arrived in Huron county at an early period in its development. Here he engaged in farming and also worked as a stone mason. It was his daughter who became the wife of Benedict Frey and unto that marriage, there were born five sons and two daughters.

Joseph D. Frey, the eldest son of the family, was reared on the old home farm and was educated in the country schools. When not busy with his text books he worked in the fields and continued to devote his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits until 1892, when he came to Norwalk. He has since been identified with commercial interests in this city. Turning his attention to the ice business, he continued therein for two years, after which he extended the scope of his activities to include coal, concrete blocks and building materials. He has

been very successful in all branches of his business and attends strictly to his trade which has been built up by legitimate methods, his enterprise and energy resulting in the acquirement of a large patronage.

In 1892 Mr. Frey was united in marriage to Miss Dora Gfell, a native of Huron county, of German descent. They have become parents of three daughters and a son: Lenora, Esther, Verna and Arthur. The parents are communicants of the Roman Catholic church and that Mr. Frey is a popular and valued citizen is indicated in the fact that against his wishes he was elected to the city council on the democratic ticket in a republican ward. When the people had thus manifested their choice, he set to work to give them the best services possible, exercising his official prerogatives in support of every measure and movement calculated to prove of public benefit. He is a man of strong purpose, giving stalwart support to whatever he believes to be right, whether in political, business or social relations. Since entering the commercial circles of Norwalk he has made substantial progress and his liberal patronage is well merited.

JOSEPH HYDE.

Joseph Hyde, of Townsend township, was active in local political circles and an influential factor in community interests. He was born November 2, 1838, in Milan, Erie county, Ohio, a son of William S. and Adeline (Allen) Hyde, who removed westward from Green Farm, Connecticut, in 1835. The father engaged for a time in the grain and shipping business at Milan, but afterward returned to Connecticut and was married in 1836. He then brought his bride to Milan, where he resumed business, making his home there until 1850, when he took up his abode at Townsend, now Collins. There he engaged in merchandising and in the manufacture of cultivators and for a long period figured as one of the representative business men of the community, continuing to make his home in Townsend until his death, which occurred May 7, 1895, when he was ninety-five years of age. His wife passed away on the 6th of January, 1882, and their graves were made in the Townsend cemetery. There were four children in their family: Aretta J., Joseph, Thirza A. and William. All are now deceased and lie buried in the Townsend cemetery with the exception of Thirza A., who was laid to rest at Berlin Heights.

Joseph Hyde, whose name introduces this review, passed away on the 2d of March, 1901. He had been educated in the public schools of Milan and of Townsend and for a time also attended Oberlin College. He taught school for two years during the winter months and in the summer seasons was engaged in farming. His entire life was a busy one, characterized by devotion to the duty which lay nearest his hand.

On the 15th of March, 1866, he was united in marriage to Miss Emma L. Humphrey, a daughter of William and Sarah Ann (Bierce) Humphrey. Both the Humphrey and Bierce families were Connecticut people and the parents of Mrs. Hyde were married in that state. Afterward they removed westward to Parma, Ohio, in 1835. Mr. Humphrey was a millwright and followed his trade



JOSEPH HYDE

in the neighborhood of Cleveland until 1848, when he went to Townsend, Huron county. There he purchased a farm and built a sawmill for cutting his timber and added to his landed possessions as his financial resources increased. In the course of years he became a very extensive landowner and also a large operator in lumber. In fact he prospered in his various undertakings for he was a man of keen business discernment and unfaltering energy. At his death, which occurred on the 22d of September, 1874, he owned one thousand acres of land and had large invested interests besides. His family consisted of four children, three daughters and one son: Emma L., Sarah A., Delia L. and William E. Of these Emma L., now Mrs. Joseph Hyde, is the only one living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hyde were born five children: Caroline, now the wife of William H. Hurd, of Collins; Mary A., deceased; William H., a practicing physician of Cleveland, Ohio; Eleanor H., the wife of Ernest Hurst, a farmer of Florence township, Erie county, Ohio; and Sherman B., who carries on farming in Townsend township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hyde conducted a general store in Townsend Center for three years and on the expiration of that period removed to the farm whereon their son Sherman B now lives. They made it their home for fully thirty years and on leaving that place in 1900 took up their abode in Collins, where they resided until the death of Mr. Hyde, on the 2d of March, 1901. He was a very successful man, owning nearly five hundred acres of land, and he and his wife together had other financial interests. He was seldom if ever at fault in matters of business judgment and his wise investments and enterprise brought him substantial success.

Moreover, he was well known because of his activity and influence in matters relating to the public welfare. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he was ever an intelligent advocate of the measures which he espoused. For many years he served as the treasurer of Townsend township, was also trustee for several years and for a long period acted as a member of the district school board. Whatever pertained to the public welfare awakened his interest and if he believed that a plan was feasible and for the best interests of the community he would give it his hearty endorsement and support. He held membership in Townsend Lodge, F. & A. M., and was one of the active representatives of the craft for many years. A man of sterling purpose and honorable conduct, he was highly respected by all who knew him. He stood as a high type of the American citizen who by his own energy wins success and at the same time is neglectful of no duty to the public.

SHERMAN B. HYDE.

Sherman B. Hyde, a worthy representative of one of the old pioneer families of Ohio, now closely associated with the agricultural and live-stock interests of Townsend township, was born November 6, 1875, and is a son of Joseph and Emma L. (Humphrey) Hyde. The father was a farmer by occupation and the son was reared on the old homestead place, assisting in the general work relative

to the cultivation and care of the crops. His early education was acquired in the district schools and subsequently he continued his studies in the schools of Collins and attended Oberlin College for a time. He was a young man of twenty-five years when on the 19th of December, 1900, he wedded Miss Grace Sherman, a daughter of Almond and Emma (Bowen) Sherman. Both the Sherman and Bowen families were prominent in pioneer times here. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hyde have been born four children: John; Almond J.; and Grace, who passed away when three years old; and Emma Maie.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hyde settled on the old home farm where he had always lived. This is a tract of three hundred and fifty acres of very rich and productive land and the place is well improved with large barns and sheds, giving ample shelter for grain and stock. There is also a modern dwelling upon the place. The land is tiled and carefully improved and is now under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Hyde also makes a specialty of raising live stock, feeding sheep, cattle and hogs for the markets. His farm presents a neat and thrifty appearance, and he not only finds ready sale for the product of his fields but also finds a good market for his stock.

In his political views Mr. Hyde is a republican, active in support of the party interests. When twenty-two years of age he was elected township trustee and filled the position for nine years, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. He has been for a long period and is still a member of the township board of education. He is usually chosen a delegate to the county, district and state conventions of his party and is a man well informed on questions and issues of the day, thus being able to support his position by intelligent argument. He cares little for office, however, preferring to give his time to his private affairs. His wife is an intelligent lady of fine character and the Hyde home is among the most attractive in the township. Both are held in high esteem by all who know them, for their good qualities of heart and mind have endeared them to many friends. Mr. Hyde is practical in all that he does in a business way, and the residence and excellent appearance of his place make this one of the best farms in the county.

MISS MARY NELSON.

Miss Mary Nelson, owning and residing on a fine farm of about two hundred acres in Bronson township, was born on this place on the 19th of April, 1870. Her parents, Horatio Perry and Maria (Danforth) Nelson, were both natives of Peru township, this county, the former born March 17, 1830, and the latter on the 1st of February, 1837. John Nelson, the paternal grandfather of Miss Nelson, whose birth occurred in Massachusetts in 1800, became one of the pioneer settlers of Huron county, locating in Peru township with his father, Eli Nelson, in the year 1816. Unto him and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Almira Sherman, were born six children, namely: Fidelia, Mary, Lucia, Elizabeth, Horatio P. and Henry. Aro and Lucy (Taft) Danforth, the maternal grandparents

of Miss Nelson, were also numbered among the early settlers of Peru township, making their way to this state from Vermont.

Horatio P. Nelson, the father of the lady whose name initiates this review, was for a number of years engaged in the operation of a sawmill in Peru township, but subsequently gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits, continuing as a successful representative of farming interests until called to his final rest. He was likewise a stockholder in the Huron County Bank and in the community where his entire life was spent gained favorable recognition as a substantial, progressive and leading citizen. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to various positions of public trust and responsibility. On the 8th of March, 1860, he was united in marriage to Miss Maria Danforth, by whom he had two children, as follows: Mary; and Charles Danforth, whose natal day was August 13, 1866. The latter, who wedded Miss Lizzie M. Sanborn, is now deceased, his demise having occurred on the 28th of November, 1900. His widow and her two children, Aro Danforth and Ira Sanborn, now make their home in Boston.

Miss Mary Nelson has spent her entire life on the farm where her birth occurred and which is now in her possession. The place is a valuable and well improved tract of land of about two hundred acres and she derives therefrom a gratifying annual income. She was reared in the faith of the Universalist church and attends its services. Her many good traits of heart and mind have endeared her to all with whom she has come in contact and she is well entitled to mention in this volume as a representative of two of the prominent and honored pioneer families of this county.

FRANK SCHLAGETER.

Frank Schlageter, owning and operating an excellent farm of one hundred and two acres located in Bronson township, is meeting with most gratifying success in his farming and stock raising interests. A native of Havana, he was born on the 5th of February, 1867, and is a son of Michael and Mary (Beeler) Schlageter. The father was a soldier of the Civil war, being a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In his family were six children: Frank, Edward, Mary, Lizzie, and two who died in infancy.

Spending the period of his boyhood and youth amid the scenes and environment of country life, Frank Schlageter assisted his father in the work of the home farm and acquired his education as a pupil in the common schools. Under the direction of his father he received thorough business training along agricultural lines and when he attained his majority and sought to engage in business for himself he wisely selected as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared. He has since devoted his energies to farming and for the past ten years has resided upon a farm of one hundred and two acres of land in Bronson township. During this period, he has directed his efforts to its further cultivation and improvement. It is now a well improved property which indicates in its neat

appearance the thrift and progressiveness of its owner, while his well directed industry, energy and perseverance are finding their reward in the rich harvests which are annually gathered. In connection with his general agricultural pursuits, he breeds cattle, sheep and hogs, and he enjoys a substantial income as both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the raising of stock—are proving successful.

It was on the 10th of May, 1899, that Mr. Schlageter was united in marriage to Miss Loretta Ruggles, who was born in 1860 and is a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Snyder) Ruggles. She was the youngest of a family of five children, the others being: Jennie, Walter, Charles and William. Mr. and Mrs. Schlageter have one child, a son, Walter Melville. In politics Mr. Schlageter is independent, reserving the privilege to vote for the men and measures which in his estimation will best conserve the public good. He is, however, public spirited in his citizenship and does all in his power to further the substantial growth and upbuilding of the community, while he ranks among the loyal and representative citizens of Bronson township.

WILLIAM T. SNYDER.

William T. Snyder, who since 1903 has practically lived retired in Norwalk, was in former years actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Huron county. His birth occurred in Milan, Erie county, Ohio, February 3, 1835, his father being William H. Snyder, who was born in New York on the 12th of April, 1801. He was a harness maker by trade and in 1833, made his way to Huron county, Ohio, thus becoming a factor in the pioneer development and progress of this part of the state. In 1839, he purchased a farm in Peru township and made his home thereon until the time of his death, devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits with gratifying success. He passed away in January, 1885, in the faith of the Presbyterian church, his demise being the occasion of deep and widespread regret.

William T. Snyder was reared on his father's farm, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, with which line of activity he was identified throughout his entire business career. Energetic, enterprising and progressive, he met with a gratifying and commendable measure of prosperity in his farming operations and when at length his well directed labors had brought him a handsome competence he put aside the active work of the fields and took up his abode in Norwalk, where he has lived retired since 1903. He still retains possession of his farm in Peru township, this county, and though now past the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey, he is yet quite a busy and active man. In 1864, he enlisted as a soldier of the Union army, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and doing garrison duty at Washington, D. C., during his four months' term of service.

In 1856, Mr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Perry, who was born in Peru township, Huron county, in 1837. The eight children born of

this union, all of whom still survive, are as follows: Clarence E., who is a resident of Indiana; Mrs. Mary E. Stafford, of Michigan; Mrs. Anna Ketchum, living in Norwalk; Charles P., who makes his home in Peru township; Mrs. Nettie M. Rarison, of Huron county; Sadie F.; Mrs. Laura B. Hoyt, also a resident of Huron county; and Mrs. Florence S. Crawford, residing in this state. There have been no deaths in the family and Mr. Snyder now has twenty grandchildren. He celebrated the Christmas of 1908 by a family re-union, inviting all of his children and grandchildren to the Christmas dinner.

At the polls, Mr. Snyder usually casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democracy, but is not bitterly partisan, it being his aim to support the candidate whom he considers best qualified for office. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust and responsibility. He served as assessor for ten years, was township clerk for fifteen years and for twelve years acted as justice of the peace in Peru township, discharging his various official duties in a most able and satisfactory manner. Both he and his wife have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community, having ever displayed those traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard. Mr. Snyder well deserves mention in this volume as one of the honored and representative citizens of Huron county, being thoroughly familiar with its annals from pioneer times down to the present.

FRED A. BECKSTEIN.

Fred A. Beckstein, numbered among the successful and enterprising agriculturists of Lyme township, where he owns an excellent farm of seventy-eight acres, was born in this township on the 20th of June, 1877, his parents being William and Carolina (Longyear) Beckstein. The father, whose birth occurred in Germany, September 20, 1848, came alone to the new world at the age of seventeen years, taking up his abode in Huron county, Ohio. Securing employment as a farm hand, he was thus engaged for about six years and then bought ninety acres of land in Lyme township, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest in 1905. Throughout his entire business career, he was successfully identified with agricultural interests and his upright and honorable life won him the warm regard and esteem of all with whom he was associated. He did effective work for the cause of education as a member of the school board and was likewise a valued and helpful member of the Lutheran church at Bellevue. His wife was born in Richmond township, Huron county, in the year 1856, her parents, Charles and Mary Longyear, being early settlers of this county. She still survives and has an extensive circle of warm friends throughout this county, where she has spent her entire life. Her family numbers five children, namely: Fred A., of this review; Lewis; William, Jr.; Carolina, the wife of William Seible; and Addie.

Fred A. Beckstein obtained his education in the district and special schools of his native township and was reared in the usual manner of farm lads. He worked in the fields when not busy with his textbooks and early became familiar with the

best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. In 1908, he purchased his present farm of seventy-eight acres from Daniel Eichenlaub and has since added many improvements to the property, in the cultivation of which he is meeting with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity. He is practical in his methods and his intense and well directed activity constitutes the basis of the success which has crowned his efforts.

In 1904, Mr. Beckstein was united in marriage to Miss Flora Seible, whose birth occurred in Lyme township, October 18, 1878, her parents being Anthony and Mary (Sipe) Seible, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father, whose natal day was May 31, 1834, passed away on the 22d of July, 1898, while the mother, who was born December 30, 1837, still survives. Mr. and Mrs. Beckstein have one child, Clara, born on the 30th of January, 1905. In his religious faith, Mr. Beckstein is a Lutheran, belonging to the church of that denomination in Bellevue. Both he and his wife have always resided in Lyme township and enjoy in large measure the confidence and esteem of those with whom they have come in contact, while the hospitality of their pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

LEVI L. COLE.

Levi L. Cole, who is numbered among the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Bronson township, is a worthy native son of Huron county, his birth having here occurred on the 19th of October, 1850. His father, Lyman Cole, who was born in New York on the 10th of March, 1810, passed away when his son, Levi L., was but three years of age. The mother, marrying a second time, afterward became the wife of J. S. Fuller.

Levi L. Cole supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the country schools, by a course of study in the normal school at Milan, Erie county. When eighteen years of age he hired out as a farm hand for one season and subsequently took charge of the home farm, caring for his mother until she was called to her final rest on the 2d of February, 1892. He then bought the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead place of one hundred and one acres, which he has since owned and operated, the fields annually yielding golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them. He has added to his landed holdings by the additional purchase of fifty acres on the opposite side of the road, where he resides with his daughter, Mrs. West.

On the 20th of October, 1880, Mr. Cole was united in marriage to Miss Elva T. Boyle, who was born on the 5th of January, 1857, her parents being Richard and Eliza Boyle, of Huron county. Mrs. Cole passed away on the 12th of October, 1889, leaving a daughter, Anna E., who gave her hand in marriage to Niles A. West on the 2d of August, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. West have a little daughter, Elva Margaret.

In his political views Mr. Cole is a stalwart and unfaltering republican and has capably served as trustee of Bronson township for twelve years. He was largely instrumental in furthering the movement which resulted in the building



MR. AND MRS. LEVI L. COLE

of the new stone road from five points south on the old state road, and his aid and influence are ever given in support of those measures which tend to advance the general welfare or promote the country's growth along substantial lines. His entire life has been passed in this county and that his career has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his stanch friends and admirers.

BENJAMIN BOURDETTE WOOD.

The record of Benjamin Bourdette Wood is such as to make his history of general interest, for he today occupies a prominent position in professional and business circles in Norwalk. Moreover he is a representative of two of the oldest and most prominent families of this part of the state, families whose activity has been a most potent element in the work of general progress and improvement here. His own lines of life have been cast in harmony therewith and his record reflects credit upon the history of the community. One of Huron county's native sons, Mr. Wood was born at Hunt's Corners in Lyme township, October 19, 1870. His father is also a native of the same locality but his grandfather, Joseph Wood, was born in England and became the founder of the family in the United States, where he arrived in 1833. Making his way westward to Huron, he drove from that place to Lyme township, settling on the farm, which continued to be his place of residence for many years. James B. Wood also followed farming in Lyme township for a long period and in 1874 removed to Bellevue, where he engaged in the furniture business and also in the grain trade. He is now vice-president of the First National Bank, of Bellevue, and occupies a prominent and honored position in commercial and financial circles. He has attained a most gratifying measure of success and the methods which he has always pursued have won him the honor and respect of his associates. He has been quite active in public affairs, and his influence has been no unimportant factor in promoting progress and improvement. His wife, Mrs. Julia L. Wood, was a daughter of Bourdette Wood, the youngest member of a family of five sons and four daughters. He became one of the most distinguished and influential men in his section of Huron county, Bellevue owing much of its growth and progress to him. He was a man of liberal thought, of progressive and patriotic purposes and of undaunted enterprise. As the years passed by and he prospered in his undertakings he became a large land owner and was also the president of the old Bellevue Bank. James B. Wood likewise holds extensive land interests, together with considerable realty in Bellevue. In addition to his other business interests he is a director in the Gilchrist Transportation Company, owning one of the largest independent fleets in the world. He still makes his home in Bellevue, but in 1901, was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 8th of June of that year at the age of fifty-four. She was very active in society and in the Episcopal church and her influence was ever given on the side of the right, the true and the beautiful. The family numbered but two children, the daughter being Mrs. Martha

Collins, the wife of E. T. Collins, who is connected with manufacturing interests in Toledo.

The only son, Benjamin Bourdette Wood, pursued a public school education to the time that he was graduated from the Bellevue high school, while later he entered Kenyon College and subsequently matriculated in the law department of Michigan University at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated in June, 1892. He began practice in Norwalk in September of the same year and for a short time was in the office of Judge Wildman. Later he undertook the task of building up an independent practice and his success is indicated by his high standing in his profession, the general public and the legal fraternity both acknowledging his ability and the efficiency of the work which he does in the courts. He was city attorney of Norwalk for two terms and he has always been active in public affairs, prominent as a leader in the local ranks of the republican party. Aside from his professional interests, he is a director of and a member of the finance committee of the Huron County Banking Company and is one of the receivers of the Laning Printing Company.

In September, 1898, Mr. Wood was married to Miss Harriet Belle Rood, a daughter of R. K. Rood, a man of note in Huron county, who at one time served as county clerk. Her mother, who bore the maiden name of Louise Hadley, was a representative of an old Huron county family and her father was prominent in manufacturing circles. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have become parents of two children: James, born July 13, 1899; and Bourdette, born July 27, 1902.

Mr. Wood is an exemplary representative of the Masonic order and has taken the degrees of the York Rite up to the including that of the commandery. He is a member of the Episcopal church and is now a member of its building committee and its secretary. He is also a vestryman of St. Paul's church and his interest in the church work is manifest in many tangible ways.

CHARLES W. PARSONS.

Charles W. Parsons, who is actively and successfully identified with general farming and stock raising interests in Wakeman township, was born in Townsend township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 26th of November, 1853, his parents being Charles C. and Elmina M. (Arnett) Parsons. The father's birth occurred in Florence township, in what is now Erie county, March 17, 1820, while the mother was born in Warren, Warren county, Pennsylvania, on the 13th of May, 1831.

Peter Parsons, the great-great-grandfather of Charles W. Parsons, was a seafaring man, trading between the colonies and Great Britain. About the year 1760, he brought his family, consisting of seven sons and two daughters, to Fairfield, Fairfield county, Connecticut. Five of his sons lost their lives in the Revolutionary war. He was intensely patriotic and at a critical period in the war, after hearing of the death of three of his sons on the same day, he took the weights of his old English family clock and, with the assistance of a son, molded them into bullets, which he contributed as ammunition to the Colonial army. Subsequently

he and the son also joined the army, aiding the colonists in their attempt to throw off the yoke of British oppression.

Joseph Parsons, a son of Peter Parsons and the great-grandfather of our subject, served as a soldier throughout the entire period of the Revolutionary war. He and his wife reared a family of two sons and three daughters, of whom the eldest was Aaron Parsons, the grandfather of Charles W. Parsons. Joseph Parsons and his son Aaron left Connecticut in 1811 for the Ohio Firelands, or the Connecticut Reserve. Aaron Parsons only went as far as New York, but his father continued the journey to Ohio and took up the land for himself and his son. The latter remained in the Empire state for five years and while there was married to Miss Betsy Case. In the year 1816, he made his way to Ohio, settling at Florence in Florence township, which was then in Huron county, but is now in Erie county. At that time this section of the state was entirely covered with timber, which had to be cut down and cleared away before the land could be utilized for farming purposes. In 1826, Aaron Parsons established his home in Wakeman and engaged in general agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood. The remains of the original log house which he built for his family are still standing near the home of his grandson, Charles W. Parsons. Unto Aaron and Betsy (Case) Parsons were born seven children, the record of whom is as follows: two who died in infancy; Electa A., whose birth occurred in New York, prior to the removal of her parents to this state; Julia; Charles C.; Joseph W.; and Mary J. Of these, Charles C. Parsons, the father of our subject, is the only one who still survives. He has now attained the venerable age of eighty-nine years and is in possession of all his faculties.

Unto Charles C. and Elmina M. (Arnett) Parsons, were born seven children, two of whom died in infancy, the others being Charles W., George A., Frank J., Andrew E. and Elmina Mae. All are still living with the exception of Frank J., who was accidentally drowned while bathing at Valparaiso, Indiana, on the 25th of July, 1886. He was at that time a young man of twenty-five years and a law student at Valparaiso.

Charles W. Parsons, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the district schools of his native township and spent his boyhood and youth on his father's farm. He was married at the age of twenty years and brought his young bride to the home in which he had been born. In the year 1881, they took up their abode in Wakeman township, where they have since resided. Throughout his active business career, Mr. Parsons has devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising and at times has also been quite extensively engaged in teaming. In association with his son, James C., he owns one hundred and eighty-three acres of fine farming land, all of which is under a high state of cultivation and improvement. He has displayed sound judgment in all he has undertaken and his energy has been one of the potent features in his success.

On the 27th of October, 1873, Mr. Parsons was united in marriage to Miss Deborah J. Brewer, a daughter of James and Lydia (Bracey) Brewer, the former a farmer of Townsend township. Their union has been blessed with five children, as follows: Nora, now the wife of Homer Ohmo, of Washington, D. C.; Elmina, who is the wife of William Felton; James C., who is engaged in agricultural pur-

suits on a farm adjoining that of his father; and two who died in infancy. He is a young man of excellent business ability and sound judgment and his progressive, alert and enterprising spirit will undoubtedly carry him forward toward the goal of prosperity. On the 21st of December, 1907, he wedded Miss Rosalia Schoettle, a daughter of Alexander and Ursula Schoettle, of Townsend township.

Charles W. Parsons gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party, being a stalwart advocate of its principles. He has capably served his fellow townsmen in the position of road supervisor. For almost a century the name of Parsons has now figured prominently and honorably in the annals of this county in connection with its agricultural interests and Mr. Parsons of this review has ever fully maintained the enviable reputation which the members of the family have borne. He is widely recognized as an influential and respected citizen of the county in which his entire life has been spent, while his many sterling traits of character have won him the warm friendship and regard of those with whom he has come in contact.

DELOS O. WOODWARD.

Delos O. Woodward, a member of the firm of Mead & Woodward, of Norwalk, was born on the 10th of January, 1852, a son of Orris P. and Clarissa D. (Fenn) Woodward. The father, whose birth occurred in Lyons, New York, in 1822, was a tailor by trade and during his early business career, followed merchant tailoring. Subsequently he purchased a farm in Huron county, Ohio, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was successfully engaged for a period of eighteen years, at the end of which time he sold the property and took up his abode in Norwalk. Here he erected a handsome new residence and continued a worthy and respected citizen of Norwalk until called to his final rest in 1873. On his arrival in this city, he became identified with mercantile pursuits, conducting a grocery establishment in association with his two sons, I. J. and Delos O. Woodward, under the firm style of O. P. Woodward & Sons. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Clarissa D. Fenn and was born in Clyde, Ohio, in 1828, passed away in the year 1866. Unto this worthy couple, were born ten children, six of whom still survive, namely: Dewey A.; Mrs. Lucinda L. Mead; Delos O., of this review; Mrs. Laura C. Fuller; Mrs. Ada J. Blair; and Mrs. Azell S. Suydam.

Delos O. Woodward supplemented his preliminary education, obtained in the common schools, by a course of study in the Norwalk high school. As before stated, he became associated with his father and brother, I. J. Woodward, in the conduct of a grocery business and subsequent to the death of the father the brothers carried on the enterprise for about fifteen years longer, when it was sold out on account of the failing health of I. J. Woodward, who is now deceased, his demise having occurred in 1906. After severing his connection with the grocery trade, Mr. Woodward of this review formed a partnership with J. L. Mead, under the firm style of Mead & Woodward, and they have since carried on an extensive and successful business as buyers and shippers of grain, wool, hay, etc.,

and also as dealers in coal, wood and seeds of all kinds. Mr. Woodward is also interested in real estate on quite an extensive scale and has long been numbered among the prosperous, progressive and most highly respected citizens of the community. He well merits the somewhat hackneyed, but altogether expressive title of a self-made man, for his success has come as the result of untiring energy, good business ability and honorable, straightforward dealing.

On the 21st of August, 1878, Mr. Woodward was joined in wedlock to Miss Harriet S. Mead, who was born on the 23d of May, 1849, her parents being Joel E. and Betsy Ann (Lewis) Mead. By this union, there are two children, as follows: Charles Lewis, who was educated in the schools of Norwalk and in the Cleveland Business College; and Katherine W., who first attended school in Norwalk and then pursued a course of study in Lake Erie College at Painesville.

Politically Mr. Woodward is a stalwart republican and on that ticket was elected to the office of township treasurer, serving for two terms. The cause of education has ever found in him a stanch champion and he was a member of the school board for three years, but resigned because of his defective hearing. He is one of the elders in the Presbyterian church and fraternally is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Maccabees. His friends; and they are many, speak of him in terms of warm praise and good will and his life record shows that he is well entitled to mention among the distinctively representative citizens of Huron county.

HARRY W. SNYDER.

The agricultural interests of Huron county find a worthy representative in Harry W. Snyder, who owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred acres in Bronson township, where he engages in general farming and stock-raising. He was born on the 11th of September, 1865, on the farm which is now his home, and is a son of William Henry and Hannah (Hinkley) Snyder. The former, who is a son of John and Harriett (Watrous) Snyder, was born in 1835, while the latter, a daughter of Benjamin and Maria (Paine) Hinkley, was born in 1836. Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Snyder are the parents of four children, Harry, Benjamin, Ida and Luta.

No event of especial importance occurred to vary the routine of daily life for Harry W. Snyder in his boyhood and youth, which were spent on the old Hinkley homestead, where his entire life has been spent. He acquired his education in the district schools, which he attended during the winter months, while the summer seasons were devoted to assisting his father in the cultivation of the fields. That his early training along agricultural lines was thorough and practical, is indicated in the atmosphere of progress and prosperity which surrounds his place today. He now owns the old homestead which was originally the property of his grandfather, Benjamin Hinkley, and which constitutes one hundred acres located in Bronson township. He has directed his efforts toward its further improvement and cultivation and the place, which is now in an excellent condition, is one of the valuable and desirable farms of the township. He is progressive and up-to-date in his methods,

having equipped the place with all of the modern conveniences and devices for the purpose of facilitating farm labor. He possesses good business ability, which is manifest in his management of his general farming and stock-raising interests, which are proving remunerative as the years go by.

In the year 1888 Mr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Sadie F. Snyder, who was born in 1869, and is a daughter of William T. and Sarah Perry, the former a son of William H. Snyder, and the latter a daughter of Horace Perry, who traces his ancestry back to Commodore Perry, of Lake Erie fame. Mrs. Harry W. Snyder is the eldest of a family of eight children, born unto her parents, the others being Clarence, Charles, Mary, Anna, Nettie, Laura and Florence. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Snyder have been born two children, Florence and Dorothea.

In politics, Mr. Snyder casts his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party for a close study of the principles and platform of that organization has led him to the belief that thereby the best interests of the community will be best conserved. He was elected township trustee, which office he filled for about seven years, during which period he discharged his duties with promptness, faithfulness and loyalty. Public-spirited in his citizenship, his influence can at all times be depended upon to further all matters having for their object the substantial and permanent upbuilding of the community. In Huron county where his entire life has been passed, Mr. Snyder has won a large circle of friends, who entertain for him high regard and esteem, and he is numbered among the prominent and valued citizens of Bronson township.

JOHN F. DELLINGER.

In reviewing the lives of men it is interesting to note how many of them continue in the same line of business from boyhood on through mature years, developing their capacities and abilities and gradually accumulating a competency that insures freedom from care during declining years. John F. Dellinger of Richmond township, Huron county, is an excellent example of this class of man, and he has become one of the substantial farmers of his locality, now owning one hundred and ten and one-half acres of rich farming land, all of which is in a good state of cultivation. Mr. Dellinger was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1864, being a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Sennett) Dellinger. His paternal grandparents were John and Betsy Dellinger, while his maternal grandparents were Oliver and Elizabeth Sennett, all born in the Keystone state.

Henry Dellinger was a cooper by trade and found employment in Pennsylvania and afterwards in Crawford county, Ohio, to which locality he removed and in which he lived a year before coming to Richmond township, Huron county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying January 12, 1897. His remains are interred in Union Bethel cemetery in Richmond township. His widow survives. The following named children graced their union: Susan, who married William Rapp and lives in Bellevue, Huron county; William, who lives in Seneca county; Catherine, who married Edwin Hofford and lives in Philadelphia;



JOHN F. DELLINGER AND FAMILY

John F., of this review; Carrie, who married Charles Sage; Howard, who lives in Richmond township; and George, who died in Pennsylvania.

John F. Dellinger alternated attendance upon the district school with assisting his father, in both Pennsylvania and Ohio, and when but sixteen he left school and engaged in farming, working by the month until his marriage. After that event he rented a farm for three years, when he bought sixty-four acres and owned it for eleven years. Selling this farm, he purchased, in 1902, his present property from the heirs of his father-in-law's estate, and it has been the family home ever since.

On February 29, 1888, Mr. Dellinger married Mary Sage, a daughter of John W. and Catherine (Miller) Sage, natives of Oswego county, New York, and Columbiana county, Ohio, respectively. The parents of Mrs. Sage were from Pennsylvania, but emigrated to Columbiana county, Ohio, a short time prior to her birth. Mrs. Dellinger was one in a family of four children, as follows: Julia, who married A. W. Harmon; Sanford; Charles; and Mary, who is the youngest. Mr. and Mrs. Dellinger have had a family as follows: Earl, who was born in February, 1891, and died in 1898; Cloyce, who was born in July, 1894; Edna, who was born in September, 1897; and Ilo, who was born in August, 1900.

Mr. Dellinger's efforts in behalf of the republican party have been appreciated as is shown by his election to the offices of road superintendent, school director and twice as assessor. The religious affiliations of the family are with the United Brethren church, and they have many friends in it as they also have throughout the neighborhood where they are so well and favorably known.

ERNEST W. BECHSTEIN.

Ernest W. Bechstein is a retired agriculturist of Huron county, now residing on his fine farm of sixty-six acres in Lyme township. He was born in Wittenberg, Germany, on the 20th of March, 1843, his parents being Louis and Katherine (Strecker) Bechstein, who spent their entire lives in the fatherland. Their family numbered seven children, namely: Katherine and Julia, who are deceased; Anna; Ricka, who has also passed away; Louis; Ernest W., of this review; and William, who is likewise deceased.

When a young man of twenty-two years, Ernest W. Bechstein determined to establish his home in the new world and after reaching the United States, he settled near Monroeville, Ohio, working by the month as a farm hand for five years. Subsequently, he was engaged in the operation of a rented farm near Russell's Corners for about a year and in 1871, owing to his close economy and careful expenditure, had accumulated capital sufficient with which to purchase a farm of his own. He bought a tract of one hundred and eighteen acres in Lyme township, on which he erected a dwelling and for thirty years, was successfully engaged in the cultivation of the farm, making many substantial improvements thereon. On New Year's day of 1900, he took up his abode on his present farm of sixty-six acres in Lyme township, which he had purchased in 1893, and gave

his time and energies to its development and improvement. He also owned another tract of thirty-three acres in the same township, which he sold, and in 1905 disposed of the old homestead farm of one hundred and eighteen acres to his son. He has put aside the active work of the fields and lives retired, his daughter Ida acting as his housekeeper, for his wife was called to her final rest in 1900. He now rents his farm but still makes his home thereon, in a fine brick residence, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil.

On the 9th of February, 1869, Mr. Bechstein was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Donner, whose birth occurred in Germany in 1845, her parents being Frederick and Savina Donner, of that country. Six children were born of this union. William C., living in Crawford county, Ohio, married Miss Minnie Marquardt, by whom he has two children, Elmer and Ora. Charles is a resident of California. Ernest, who wedded Miss Minnie Hess, passed away at the age of thirty-eight years. The two children of this marriage, Clarence and Gladys, live on the old homestead farm of their grandfather. Lucy, who became the wife of Louis Hess, has a daughter Frieda. She resides in Sherman township, this county. Ida is at home with her father. August died at the age of eight months.

Politically Mr. Bechstein is a stalwart democrat and any movement or measure instituted to advance the general welfare receives his active aid and cooperation. He served as road supervisor for fifteen years and the fine public highways of Lyme township are the visible evidence of his fidelity and capability in that office. He not only ably directed the labors of the men under his charge but took an active part in the work himself. The cause of education has ever found in him a stanch champion and he acted as a member of the school board for a number of years. He is likewise a prominent and valued member of the Lutheran church at Bellevue, which he was largely instrumental in organizing. He solicited funds for the erection of the edifice and headed the list of subscribers with a donation of four hundred dollars, later adding two hundred dollars to his subscription. Until recently he acted as a trustee of the church but about a year ago met with an accident which prevents him from attending the services. He had a bad fall, dislocating both kneecaps and has since been unable to walk without the aid of crutches. In this country he has found opportunity to give full scope to his ambition and energy and though born across the water he is thoroughly American in thought and feeling and is patriotic and sincere in his love for the stars and stripes. For more than four decades he has been numbered among the honored, respected and public-spirited citizens of Huron county and a host of friends are not only willing but eager to testify to his sterling worth.

CLARENCE L. FRENCH.

Clarence L. French is a representative business man of Norwalk who possesses much of the initiative spirit that enables him to form original plans, while his determination permits him to carry them forward to successful completion. He also readily recognizes and utilizes an opportunity and thus step by step he has progressed until the place that he now occupies in the business world is a

prominent and substantial one. He was born in Iowa, August 18, 1860. His father, Birdseye C. French, was born in Wakeman township, Huron county, Ohio, February 7, 1833. He has devoted his entire life to farming and is still living on his farm of fifty acres. He was one of the pioneer settlers of this county and assisted in building the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad from Norwalk to Wakeman. He spent about twenty years of his early life in Iowa, returning in 1871, feeling satisfied that Ohio was good enough for him. His wife died in May, 1903, at the age of sixty-six years. The family consisted of three sons and one daughter, but the daughter died at the age of twenty-three years.

In the district schools of Lorain county, Ohio, Clarence L. French pursued his education, for his parents returned from Iowa to Ohio in his boyhood days. He started in business life at the age of eighteen years in the employ of Noyes Brothers, running a retail wagon through the country for two years. He then took up the same business on his own account and continued in that field of labor for about two years, after which he engaged in the wholesale paper and notion business in Norwalk, continuing in that line of commercial activity until 1886, when he sold out. His next step was to form a partnership with James H. Sprague, under the firm style of Sprague & French, for the manufacture of novelties, in which they continued for two years and then converted it into the umbrella business. On the 15th of October, 1896, after being active in the successful management of the concern for some time, he sold out to James H. Sprague and his associates. At that date in connection with a partner, he engaged in the lumber business in Mississippi for two years and on selling out returned to Norwalk, where he began business alone in the exporting of black walnut logs to Hamburg, Germany. On the expiration of three years devoted to that business, he organized an incorporated company under the name of the French Lumber Company, capitalized for thirty thousand dollars with a volume of business amounting to fifty thousand dollars annually. Their operating field was principally in West Virginia, although in any state where it could be obtained they bought black walnut for exportation.

In August, 1907, Mr. French became manager of the Norwalk Vault Company, of Norwalk, which had been incorporated about a year before, but was doing but little business. Mr. French then took full charge of the business in constructing the national steel re-inforced water proof cement vault and national cement mould for the manufacturers in other localities. Through their methods they now handle a water-proofing powder cement which positively excludes all dampness or moisture coming in contact with the body, and the vault when prepared for burial is properly sealed with this waterproof cement and the body will remain intact for ages. Their business extends practically over the whole of the United States. They also have a concern in Missouri which looks after their western business. When Mr. French took hold of this business as its general manager, it was in its infancy and since he assumed the management, he has brought the volume of business up to about seventy-five thousand dollars annually. These moulds are sold outright and the company receives a royalty for the product. Although the enterprise is a comparatively new one, it is rapidly on the increase and under the management of Mr. French, it is destined to be one of the most prosperous business concerns in Norwalk. It is capitalized for

forty thousand dollars with advance orders for upwards of twenty-five thousand dollars worth of moulds at the present time and all the time the patronage is growing. Mr. French is a stockholder in the business and in being put to the front to produce results, has proven himself master of the situation.

In September, 1885, Mr. French was united in marriage to Miss Ella Cunningham, who was born in East Norwalk in February, 1865. They became the parents of two children: Ada M., who was born October 20, 1886, and is now the wife of Thomas Diamon, by whom she has one child, Sherman Diamon; and Warren S.

In his fraternal relations, Mr. French is an Odd Fellow and his political support is given to the republican party, while his religious faith is that of the Methodist church. He has been pre-eminently a man of affairs, active and alert in business, and commencing at the bottom, has continuously worked his way upward, his record being one of honor and success.

NIS T. HANSEN.

Nis T. Hansen, a successful and enterprising agriculturist of Lyme township, where he owns an excellent farm of fifty-one and a half acres, was born in Denmark on the 15th of September, 1848. His parents, Carson S. and Mary (Thompson) Hansen, passed away at the ages of fifty-five and seventy-seven years respectively. Their family numbered seven children, namely: Carson; Anna, who is deceased; Nis T., of this review; Christina and John, who have likewise been called to their final rest; Sophia; and John.

In the year 1882, when thirty-four years of age, Nis T. Hansen determined to seek his fortune in the new world and, crossing the Atlantic to the United States, located at Port Clinton, Ohio, where he worked as a farm hand for three years. Subsequently he took up his abode in Sandusky county, Ohio, where he was engaged in the work of the fields for a similar period and then rented a tract of land in Seneca county, Ohio, continuing its cultivation for fifteen years. At the end of that time, by dint of close economy and careful expenditure, he had accumulated capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm of his own and in 1904 he bought his present place of fifty-one and a half acres in Lyme township, Huron county, from G. G. Patten. His efforts as an agriculturist have been attended with a most commendable and well deserved measure of prosperity, for the methods which he follows are practical and at the same time are in keeping with ideas of progressive farming.

In 1872 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hansen and Miss Christina Jensen and by this union there have been born eight children. Charles, living in Lyme township, wedded Miss Clesta Weiker, by whom he has four children: Carl, Gordon, Edgar and Lewis. Margaret, who became the wife of Michael Kistler, resides near Clyde, Ohio. They have five children: Allen, Bessie, Lawrence, Oscar and Ralph. John, of Seneca county, Ohio, married Miss Jennie Zimmerman and has three children: Walter, Nora and Margaret. Mary, who gave her hand in marriage to Henry Zimmerman, has one child, Helen. They make their home at

Cleveland, Ohio. Peter, Anna, Adeline and Jennie are the four youngest children of Mr. and Mrs. Hansen. The different members of the family all belong to the Lutheran church and are highly esteemed throughout the community in which they reside. The hope that led Mr. Hansen to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought,—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man,—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward.

MRS. JULIA JOSEPHINE RUSSELL.

Mrs. Julia Josephine Russell, the widow of William Charles Russell, now owns a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and twelve acres in Fairfield township. Her birth occurred in Ripley township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 8th of October, 1853, her parents being George and Sarah Hayten Hyde Blackmore. The father was born in England on the 11th of November, 1807, while the mother's birth occurred in that country on the 11th of August, 1821. Their marriage was celebrated in Derby county, England, on the 20th of September, 1841, and on the 4th of June, 1849, they set sail for the United States, arriving in New York on the 20th of July. They at once made their way to this state and took up their abode in Sandusky but after a short time came to Fairfield township, Huron county, and subsequently established their home in Ripley township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Unto this worthy couple were born the following children: Faniza Ellen, Julia Josephine, Lucy A., Annie, Sarah, Priscilla, Thomas Hyde, Isaac, William George and Walter.

On the 6th of January, 1886, Julia Josephine Blackmore gave her hand in marriage to William Charles Russell, who was born in Ripley township, Huron county, on the 8th of April, 1858, and was a son of John A. and Mary (Lewis) Russell, the former a native of New York and the latter also born in the east. In early life they accompanied their respective parents on the journey to this county. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Russell reared a family of nine children, namely: George Wilbur, Homer J., Adeline, Rebecca Jane, William Charles, Stephen D., Emma, Fred and Martha. Unto William Charles and Julia Josephine (Blackmore) Russell were born two children: George A., whose birth occurred May 20, 1894; and Mary Blackmore, who first opened her eyes to the light of day on the 12th of February, 1897.

Mrs. Russell has made her home on the farm where she now resides since 1899, the place comprising one hundred and twelve acres of rich and productive land. Her husband, who was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career, was called to his final rest on the 11th of July, 1907, his death being the occasion of deep and widespread regret. He was a devoted and consistent member of the Disciple church at North Fairfield, while fraternally he was identified with the Maccabees. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he capably served his fellow townsmen in the positions of school director and road supervisor. He was well known and highly esteemed throughout the community in which his entire life was spent, being num-

bered among its enterprising and progressive agriculturists as well as public-spirited citizens. His widow has likewise been a resident of this county from her birth to the present time and, being a lady of many excellent traits of heart and mind, has gained an extensive circle of friends within its borders. She is an exemplary and faithful member of the Disciple church of North Fairfield.

EUGENE PECK SILLIMAN.

Eugene Peck Silliman, owning and operating a well improved farm of one hundred and sixteen acres on the outskirts of North Fairfield, was born on the place where he now resides, his natal day being April 16, 1849. His parents, George and Lydia (Peck) Silliman, were natives of Connecticut and New York respectively, the former born about 1815 and the latter on the 27th of January, 1817. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Joseph and Lucinda (Banks) Silliman, the former a native of Connecticut. Isaac and Amy (Carlisle) Peck, the maternal grandparents of Eugene P. Silliman, were born in the years 1777 and 1790, respectively. Their marriage was celebrated in 1808 and they reared the following children: William, Lucy, Isaac, Lydia, Matthew, Eli, Cornelius, Lyman, James, Henry and Lucinda. Isaac Peck, the maternal grandfather, passed away in 1841, while his wife was called to her final rest in 1877.

As above stated, Eugene P. Silliman is now the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixteen acres on the outskirts of North Fairfield, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devotes his time and energies. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, so that he annually gathers and markets good harvests. Energetic, industrious and enterprising, he has won a gratifying measure of prosperity in the conduct of his agricultural interests and has long been numbered among the substantial farmers and representative citizens of his native county.

On the 2d of January, 1878, Mr. Silliman was united in marriage to Miss Roxana Bates, whose birth occurred in Montgomery county, New York, on the 18th of January, 1853, her parents being James and Amanda (Bellinger) Bates. The father, who was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1816, passed away in 1881. The mother was born on the 23d of December, 1820. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Silliman were Jacob and Polly (Smith) Bates, born in the years 1777 and 1783 respectively. The former died in 1859 and was survived by his wife for but three years, her demise occurring in 1862. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Silliman were John and Elizabeth Bellinger. Her great-grandfather, Frederick Bellinger, served as a lieutenant colonel in the Revolutionary war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Silliman have been born three children. Maud E., the eldest, whose birth occurred April 22, 1879, is now the wife of Frank P. Whitney, superintendent of schools at Collinwood. They have two children, Charles and Elizabeth. Floyd Silliman, who was born on the 12th of February, 1881, is now a bookkeeper in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Fay, born on the 31st of October, 1890, is in Portland, Oregon.

Politically, Mr. Silliman is a stalwart advocate of the republican party and for six years has acted as trustee of the school board. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, in which he is serving as deacon. Fraternally, he is identified with the National Insurance Union. He has spent his entire life in this county and is therefore widely and favorably known, commanding the high regard of all with whom he has been associated.

JAMES E. SEELEY.

James E. Seeley, now living retired in Wakeman, Ohio, is one of the prominent and influential citizens of this city, who throughout the period of his residence here has been connected not only with the business interests but also with the public affairs of the community. He was born in Hoboken, New Jersey, on the 1st of September, 1865, a son of Edward and Martha (McLain) Seeley. The parents were natives of New Jersey and came to Ohio in 1865, settling in Townsend township, Huron county, where the father engaged in the occupation of farming. In their family, were seven children: Jennie, the wife of William Riggs, of Norwalk; Margaret, the wife of Martin Riggs, of Townsend; Anna, who married Charles Boone, of Glenville, Ohio; Job W., of Milan; Marshall L., of Wakeman; Carrie, the wife of Sidney Stoutenberg, of Norwalk; and James E., of this review. This number still remains unbroken by the hand of death, although the father passed away February 22, 1901, and the mother's death occurred on the 4th of July, 1904. The father had devoted his entire life to farming and was of a retiring disposition. He nevertheless took a deep and helpful interest in public affairs and occupied a high place in the community in which he lived.

James E. Seeley, whose name introduces this review, was reared upon his father's farm and attended the schools of Townsend township in the acquirement of his education. He remained at home, assisting in the work of the fields, until twenty-two years of age when, attracted toward railroad life, he entered the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company and was thus engaged for two years. At the expiration of that period, he returned to the farm and assisted his father for a similar period. On the 13th of May, 1890, he was united in marriage to Miss Louise Amsdel, a daughter of James and Ann (Doty) Amsdel, of Townsend township. Her father died when she was an infant and her mother later married George Fox, a farmer of that township.

Mr. and Mrs. Seeley began their domestic life in Wakeman, where the former became identified with the meat business, continuing in this line until 1901, when he purchased a farm and operated the same for two years. He then returned to Wakeman and was again engaged in the meat business in connection with his brother Marshall L., which partnership was maintained for a period of two years, after which he spent a similar period in agricultural pursuits. Again taking up his residence in this city, he turned his attention to the bakery and confectionery business, in which connection he remained until March, 1909, at which time he sold his interests and has since been living retired. His busi-

ness career had been a very active one, his efforts along various lines being accompanied by most gratifying results, so that now he is able to enjoy in well earned rest a handsome competence that affords him all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Although his success alone would entitle him to prominence as one of the representative citizens of this city, he is perhaps equally well known in public and political circles of the community. He has served as constable of Wakeman township for two terms, was assessor for a similar period and acted as township trustee for seven years. Mr. Steele is stalwart in his advocacy of the democracy, and the fact that his township is strongly republican, indicates something of his genuine worth and personal popularity. In 1908 the democratic party, during the county convention, nominated him for county infirmary director, and although Huron county is also strongly republican, he was elected over his opponent by three hundred and forty votes, assuming the duties of office in January, 1909. He has always been deeply and actively interested in public affairs, his efforts being potent factors in the development and improvement of the community. He is a staunch advocate of good roads and in fact has engaged in contract work along this line, having constructed fully seven out of the eight miles of macadam road in Wakeman township, and it is his intention to continue in this direction.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Seeley has been blessed with two daughters, Edna M. and Ethel N., both bright and attractive young ladies, who are well known in the social circles of this community. The family residence is one of the most attractive homes in Wakeman, and its atmosphere of refinement and culture, is enjoyed by a host of friends of the family to whom its hospitality is cordially extended at all times. Although they do not hold membership in any church organization, they nevertheless attend the Congregational services and are liberal in their support of that church. Mr. Seeley also affiliates with the Maccabees. He is enthusiastic over outdoor sports and is a great admirer of a good horse, having owned at different times some very fine animals, while he also deals, to some extent, in horses. He finds recreation and relaxation in occasional hunting and fishing trips and takes much pleasure in motoring with his family during the evenings. His interests have been wide and varied, showing a well rounded character, and the value of his service in community affairs is widely acknowledged, while the consensus of public opinion accords him a prominent place in Wakeman.

ARTHUR ELI ROWLEY.

Arthur Eli Rowley, now serving as probate judge of Huron county, has been a prominent representative of the legal profession here during the past seventeen years. He was born in North Fairfield, Ohio, a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Stevens) Rowley. His paternal great-grandfather, Eli Smith Rowley, enlisted for service in the Revolutionary war when but a boy, valiantly aiding the colonists in their struggle for independence. He was captured by the British but escaped and returned to his ranks. His remains lie buried in the cemetery at Jefferson,

New York, where, in an address delivered on the 4th of July, 1876, the Hon. Peter Dyckman said: "Among the noble patriots who have left a record of deeds of daring and patriotism, we may upon this centennial anniversary day inscribe upon the banner of liberty the name of Eli Smith Rowley."

Edward Rowley, the grandfather of Arthur E. Rowley, was born October 23, 1788, and passed away in the year 1878. He was an expert cabinetmaker and manufactured the finest grades of furniture, while later in life he engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was an ardent worker in the Presbyterian church and a musician of marked talent. At his death he left a family of five sons and three daughters. Frederick, the eldest son, became a prominent and influential citizen of Schoharie, New York. Eli, another son, was the first man in the village of Jefferson to enlist in the Civil war, giving loyal service, and he died from injuries and sickness incurred on duty.

Charles Rowley, the youngest son of Edward Rowley, was born in Jefferson, New York, on the 11th of January, 1838. After pursuing a course of study in the Franklin Literary Institute of New York he taught school for a time, and in 1860 took up his abode in Lexington, Michigan, where he became secretary of an extensive lumber and milling concern. In 1866 he came to North Fairfield, Huron county, Ohio, here residing until called to his final rest on the 28th of November, 1891. He was actively and successfully engaged in the conduct of mercantile enterprises at North Fairfield and eventually became connected with agricultural, banking and other interests. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to various positions of public trust. In 1863 he wedded Miss Elizabeth Stevens, of Ripley township, who now lives at the old Fairfield home, which she hospitably maintains, there spending her declining years beloved by all who know her. She devotes much time and attention to church, charitable and social duties. Her father, Timothy Stevens, who was numbered among the worthy pioneers and prominent business men of Huron county, made his home at North Fairfield until the time of his death in 1883. His wife was of Scotch descent and a member of the Rose and Grant families. Unto Charles and Elizabeth (Stevens) Rowley were born five children, as follows: Edward F., a banker of Toledo, Ohio; Arthur Eli, of this review; Charles Scott, a lawyer residing in Toledo; Alcott, who is engaged in the insurance business in that city; and Anna, who passed away shortly after the death of her father.

In his youthful days Arthur Eli Rowley attended the village school and when not busy with his text-books worked in his father's store or on the farm. He was graduated from the high school in 1884 and the following year pursued a course of study at Oberlin preparatory to entering the University of Michigan, which institution conferred upon him the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy in 1889. The next year he began the study of law at the Chicago College of Law and, after completing the prescribed course, was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1892. Immediately afterward he entered upon the practice of his chosen profession as a partner of the Hon. Gideon T. Stewart, of Norwalk, where, with the exception of a brief period spent in Toledo, he has since resided. His practice has been general, though he has been actively engaged in court work and has enjoyed the clientage of several banks and other large institutions. In 1898, in association with Judges Willis

Vickery and Charles S. Bentley, he organized the Cleveland Law School, one of the largest and best known institutions of its kind in Ohio, and has since been a member of its faculty and board of trustees. He was likewise one of the organizers of the Citizens Banking Company of Norwalk and is a member of its board of directors.

In 1895 Judge Rowley was joined in wedlock to Miss Etta Reed, of North Fairfield, the accomplished daughter of Hon. D. H. Reed. Their union has been blessed with three children: Charles Reed, Caroline Annette and Mary Frances.

Politically Judge Rowley is a stalwart advocate of the democracy and an active worker in the ranks of the party, having served as a member of the state executive committee. In 1899 he was elected mayor of Norwalk by a majority of over two hundred, though the city has a normal republican majority of more than three hundred votes. That his administration won public approval was indicated in an unmistakable manner in 1901, when he was re-elected to the mayoralty by a handsome majority. In 1908 he led the fight of his party in Huron county and, thought not a single democrat had held a county office for fifty-four years, their efforts resulted in the election of sixteen out of seventeen democratic officials, Mr. Rowley leading by a majority of sixteen hundred and thirty for the office of probate judge, which position he now holds. He is a Mason, also belongs to the Beta Theta Pi college fraternity, and attends divine services at the Presbyterian church. He is an able, faithful and conscientious member of the bench and bar, and in his private life is endeared to all who know him by the simple nobility of his character.

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HISTORY
OF
HURON COUNTY
OHIO

ITS PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT

By A. J. BAUGHMAN

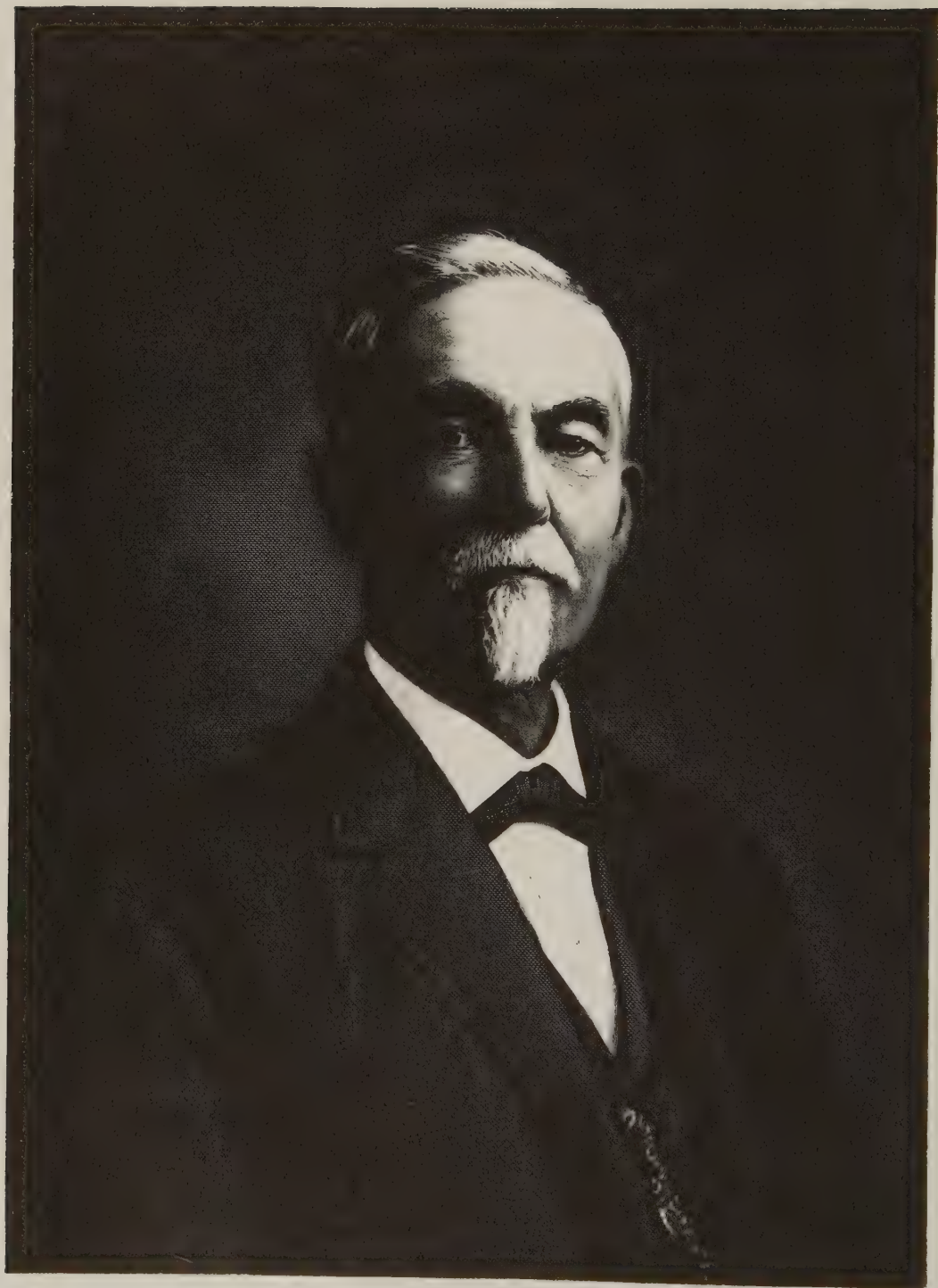
With Biographical Sketches of Prominent Citizens
of the County

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME II

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L. H. Gallup

BIOGRAPHICAL

HON. CALEB HATHAWAY GALLUP.

On reviewing the life record of any individual it is interesting to note something of the ancestry from which he sprang and their characteristics, and thus to find the root of his own well developed traits. A contemporary historian has given the following: "John Gallup (1) born 1590, the ancestor of most of our families of that name, came to America from the parish of Mosterne, county Dorset, England, in 1630. Just before leaving the old for New England, with solemn fasting and prayer, one hundred and forty persons at the new hospital at Plymouth, organized a Congregational church and chose Rev. John Warham and Rev. John Maverick to be their pastor and teacher, and sailed from Plymouth, England, March 20, 1630, in the *Mary and John*, a ship of four hundred tons, which arrived at Nantasket (now Hull), Massachusetts, May 30. "They were a very godly and religious people and many of them persons of note and figures, being dignified with the title of Mr., which few in those days were. Some of the principal men were Mr. Rosseter, Mr. Ludlow, Mr. Glover, Mr. Wolcott, Mr. Gallup and others."

"His wife was Christobel (full name now unknown), and children were John (2), born in England, Joan, Samuel and Nathan. He became the owner and gave his name to Gallup's island off Boston harbor, by grant from Governor Winthrop, whose wife was a sister of Gallup's wife. A skillful mariner, he became memorable as commander of the first naval action off Block island, fought in North American waters, to avenge the murder of his friend Captain John Oldham by Indians in the famous Pequot war of 1637. His son John (2) participated in the naval engagement off Block island and in King Philip's war as a captain, led a company of soldiers into the 'fearful swamp fight' at Narragansett, December 19, 1675 (within the limits of the present town of South Kingston, Rhode Island), where he was killed. His wife was Hannah Lake and children: Hannah, John, Esther, Benadum (3), William, Samuel, Christobel, Elizabeth, Mary and Margaret.

"In the colonial records at Hartford may be found the following: 'February 9, 1652-3, John Gallup in consideration and with respect unto the services his

father hath done for the country, hath given him up the river of Mistick, which side he will 300 acres of upland.'

"February 6, 1653-4, John Gallup, hath given him a further addition to his land at Mistick, 150 acres, which he accepts of and acknowledgeth himself satisfyde for what lands he formerly laide claim unto upon the general neck as a gift of his father's, which as he saith was given to his father by General Stoughton, after the Pequott war.'

"Benadum of the third generation, born in 1655, married Esther Prentice, and their children were Hannah, Esther, Mercy, Benadum (4), Joseph, Margaret and Lucy.

"Lieutenant Benadum (4), born 1693, married Eunice Cobb. Their children were Benadum, Esther, Eunice, Lois, William (5), Henry, Nathan, Ebenezer, Thomas P., Hannah and Sarah.

"William of the fifth generation was living at Kingston, Pennsylvania, with seven children, in 1778, at the time of 'the Wyoming massacre.' His son Hallet, twenty-two years old, escaped death by floating down the Susquehanna river patrolled by hostile Indians, his body under water and face between two rails grasped in his hands. Twin daughters, five years of age, were carried off by the Indians as pretty prizes, but soon recovered by ransom. He was born July 4, 1723, married Judith Reed, their children were Lydia, Hallet, Mary, William (6), Hannah, Sarah and Lucy.

"William of the sixth, born at Groton, Connecticut, married Freeloove Hathaway, a Philadelphia Quakeress, and had William, Hallet (7), James Devine, and Caleb Hathaway.

"Hallet of the seventh generation was an artillery gunner in Captain Thomas' company of Pennsylvania volunteers and served under General William Henry Harrison in the war of 1812. He was born 1796, married Clarissa Benedict, daughter of Platt and Salley DeForest Benedict, first settlers of Norwalk. Their children were Catherine, Mariah, Lydia, Carroll, Sarah, Eliza, Caleb Hathaway (8), and Elizabeth F."

Caleb Hathaway Gallup is a representative of the eighth generation of Gallups in America and was born in Norwalk, Ohio, May 10, 1834. He was reared to hard work on a farm and his first school experience was in the Norwalk Union schools, which he attended during the winters of 1850, 1851 and 1852. In 1853, he filled a position in the office of the Huron county clerk and then, resuming his interrupted education, matriculated at Denison University, Granville, Ohio, in 1854, entering for the scientific course. In the fall of that year, he was transferred to the same class and course at Madison University, now Colgate, at Hamilton, New York, where he promoted the founding of Mu chapter of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. On the completion of his course, he was graduated in 1856 with the degree of Bachelor of Science and followed this by preparations for the bar as a student in the office of Worcester & Pennewell in Norwalk, Ohio. There he remained until the fall of 1857, when he entered the law school of the Cincinnati College and was graduated therefrom with the Bachelor of Law degree on the 15th of April, 1858.

Mr. Gallup was admitted to practice before the bar of Michigan, July 19, 1859, and in 1860 was elected prosecuting attorney of Huron county, Michigan, which

office he held by re-election for ten consecutive years. During that same period, in 1866-7, he represented his district in the state legislature and left the impress of his individuality and clear insight into public affairs upon the legislative enactments of that session. Among other laws and resolutions enacted on his initiation, was a law for the relief of a stranded colony of educated Germans, an offshoot or protege of the "Economites" of Harmony, Pennsylvania, giving the head of each family a forty-acre homestead of state lands. He also introduced a law appropriating ten sections of state land for the navigable improvement of the outlet of the River Du Fill in Huron county, Michigan, and a joint resolution calling for the construction by the general government of a harbor of refuge on Lake Huron at or near Point Au Barques.

Mr. Gallup's labors and efforts throughout his entire life have largely been of service to the general public. In 1868 he procured by personal solicitation of resident citizens along the route the donation and erection of seventy miles of telegraph poles, from Lexington to Port Austin, Michigan, and through his influence, with Anson G. Stager, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, the completion of the first telegraph line of the west coast of Lake Huron—a work that has been of immeasurable benefit to the citizens of that locality.

In the meantime, Mr. Gallup had done military service as deputy United States marshal, from 1863 to 1865 inclusive, in which connection, he was active in enforcing the draft during the war. He was himself drafted, but was ordered back to the service of the marshal. Again he was identified with military affairs, when in 1877 he became a member of the Ohio National Guard and so continued for five years, or until 1882.

Mr. Gallup has been married twice. He first wedded Kate V. Vredenburg, a representative of an old New York Dutch family, the wedding being celebrated June 20, 1860. They had one son, Richard Carroll, who was nineteen months old at the time of the mother's death, on the 25th of May, 1863. On the 3d of November, 1869, Mr. Gallup wedded Helen Alphena Glover, a niece of the Hon. Joel Parker, "war governor" of New Jersey. The death of his second wife, April 8, 1872, leaving him with a daughter, Mabel Parker, eighteen months old, and a son, Herbert Alpheus, four days old, caused his return to his old home in Norwalk, Ohio.

Since again taking up his abode in Norwalk, Mr. Gallup has been prominently and actively interested in business affairs and in other interests relating to the welfare and progress of the community. From 1873 until 1883, he was connected with the promotion and construction of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad, and for three years, beginning in 1877, served on its board of directors. In 1888, he was associated with other substantial business men in founding the financially successful Home Savings & Loan Company of Norwalk, at which time he was chosen president and one of the directors, his official connection therewith continuing to the present. He has also extended his efforts to other fields of activity, becoming one of the directors and a member of the executive committee of the Toledo, Fremont & Norwalk Electric Railway at the time of its construction in 1899. He thus served until its sale in 1901 to the Lake Shore Electric Company.

Few men have taken so active a part in the work of general progress and improvement as Mr. Gallup. All matters of general concern elicit his interest

and whenever his judgment sanctions, he gives to a measure his hearty support and co-operation. In 1877, he became a life member of the Whittlesey Academy of Arts and Sciences, and since 1878, has served as a member of its board of trustees, acting as chairman of the board throughout the entire time and as treasurer of the institution, since 1901. In 1879, he wrote a history of Norwalk for W. W. Williams' "History of Huron and Erie Counties," and because of his deep research into the annals of the county, no man is more competent to write upon historical subjects in this locality, than he. Mr. Gallup has also been a life member of the Firelands Historical Society since 1876 and a member of its board of trustees, librarian, curator of its museum and editor of its publications, since 1888. In 1889, he became a member of the board of trustees of the Huron county Children's Home Association and has been its treasurer since 1902. He is likewise a member of the Young Men's Library and Reading Room Association, of Norwalk, controlling the Free Public Library, and has been a member of its board of trustees and chairman of its executive committee, since 1903. He is a member of the Norwalk Board of Commerce and of the National Geographical Society, and is a life member of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society, of which he was elected a member of its board of trustees and executive committee on the 2d of March, 1909. Hon. E. O. Randall, secretary and editor of that society, in comment on his selection as a trustee said: "Mr. Gallup is known throughout the country for his historical scholarship and for the active and extensive work he has done in connection with the Firelands Historical Society, of which he has been an influential and official member for a number of years. He has always been an enthusiastic student of Ohio and western history and has written much that is interesting and accurate concerning the early settlement of the Buckeye state."

CHARLES P. WICKHAM.

Charles P. Wickham, who by the consensus of public opinion is regarded as a high type of American manhood and citizenship, has for many years been engaged in the practice of law in Norwalk and throughout the entire period has been numbered among the representative members of the Huron county bar. His birth occurred in this city, September 15, 1836. He is the oldest of the thirteen children of Judge Frederick and Lucy (Preston) Wickham, both of whom were descended from Puritan ancestry. In the paternal line was Governor Winthrop, an early colonial governor of Massachusetts. The first representative of the Wickham family in the middle west was William Wickham, a native of Rhode Island, who with an instinctive love of the sea, settled on the shores of Lake Ontario at Sodus Point. His four sons, John, Thomas, Frederick and Samuel Wickham, were there reared and when they had attained their majority, all except Thomas removed to Huron, situated on one of Lake Erie's natural harbors. Samuel Wickham sailed on the lakes, being thus engaged up to the time of his death. John Wickham engaged in lake commerce and was also the owner of one of the largest fish packing establishments on the lake. Frederick Wickham



C. P. Wickham

removed to Norwalk and later became proprietor of the Norwalk Reflector, a paper which had been established as the Huron Reflector by Samuel Preston, whose daughter Lucy he had married. In the roomy, old-fashioned house in the center of the town, the upper floor of which was used as a printing office, were born the six sons and seven daughters of this marriage.

This number included Charles P. Wickham who, after acquiring his early education in the public schools, attended the Norwalk Academy. He longed for a college education, but the expense attending, the support of a large family, prevented the father from enabling the son to carry out his wishes in this direction. He prepared for a professional career by attending the Cincinnati Law School, from which he was graduated in April, 1858. He then entered upon the active practice of his profession in his native state and, with the exception of the period spent at the front during the Civil war, has been a continuous representative of the Huron county bar to the present time. He is widely recognized as one of the most important, best known and highly respected lawyers in this part of the state, confining his attention to the active practice of his profession. He is the president and director of the A. B. Chase Company, of Norwalk, manufacturers of pianos.

In August, 1860, Mr. Wickham was united in marriage to Miss Emma J. Wildman, a daughter of Frederick A. and Mariette (Patch) Wildman, natives of Danbury, Connecticut. By this union there are six living children, four sons and two daughters, namely: Charles P., Jr., who is a general life insurance agent at Norwalk; Grace W., the wife of C. C. Curran, a well known artist of New York city; Louis W., an attorney at law and late prosecuting attorney of Huron county. Winthrop H., a mining engineer and merchandise broker, now residing in Denver, Colorado; Romeyn D., a practicing attorney, who is now in partnership with his father; and Mary G., at home.

In September, 1861, Mr. Wickham bade adieu to his young wife and with patriotic ardor, offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of the Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for four years. He rose from private through the ranks of first lieutenant, captain and major to that of lieutenant colonel, receiving in addition thereto a brevet commission direct from the president, "for gallant and meritorious services in Georgia and the Carolinas." He participated in a number of important engagements, including the second battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Peach Tree Creek and all of the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, including the siege and surrender of the latter place, followed by the march to the sea, which exposed the weakness of the southern Confederacy. He inspired the soldiers under him with much of his own valor and bravery and made a most creditable record throughout his long military experience. He is a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Loyal Legion.

At the close of the war Colonel Wickham returned to Norwalk and entered upon the private practice of his profession. In 1866, he was elected prosecuting attorney of the county and two years later was re-elected, so that his incumbency continued until 1871. In 1880, he was elected judge of the common pleas court of the fourth judicial district, was re-elected in 1885, and sat upon the bench until 1886, when he resigned to become a candidate for congress from the four-

teenth district. He was elected in that year and re-elected in 1888, proving an active working member in the national halls of legislation. It is a notable fact that to each office to which he has been called, he has also been re-elected—proof positive of his ability and fidelity in the discharge of his duties. His entire official service has been in the direct path of his profession and the record is an untarnished one. Since his retirement from office, he has continuously and successfully practiced in Norwalk and has ever maintained a foremost place in the ranks of her leading attorneys. He is a man of broad scholarly attainments, an able speaker at the bar, in congress and on public occasions on which he has been called to address the people at large. He stands as a splendid representative of American manhood and citizenship, a high type of the Christian gentleman who is actuated in all that he does by lofty purposes and principles.

HAMILTON A. LOWTHER.

Hamilton A. Lowther, a farmer of Greenfield township and the owner of ninety acres of land on which he lives, was born in this township about half a mile from his present place of residence in a southerly direction. February 4, 1861, was the day of his birth and Jackson and Susan (Tower) Lowther were his parents. His paternal great-grandfather was a resident of New York city and was a prize fighter by profession. He achieved quite a reputation in his day for physical strength and prowess, and his name was frequently that of the victor in boxing contests. He was also a man of considerable wealth, which he one time put to the service of a friend, only to find that his trust was misplaced, for the latter jumped his bond and Mr. Lowther had to forfeit the sum of money he had guaranteed. His son Edward came to this part of Ohio from New York at an early day. He secured a grant of land from the government and immediately set about clearing it and making it ready for habitation. For lack of a better home he lived for many years in a log cabin which he had himself erected. His son, Jackson Lowther, the father of our subject, was born here and has passed all his life in this county. His wife was also of Ohio nativity, Sandusky having been her birthplace. Her cares as a faithful wife and mother were brought to an end in 1904, and a husband and three children have since mourned her loss. The latter are Hamilton A.; Hermie, the wife of Elvin McCord, of Sherwood, Ohio; and Nora, the wife of Henry White of this county. Mr. Lowther still follows farming despite his seventy years and is a member of the Universalist church.

This township has always been the home of Hamilton A. Lowther, and to the schools here does he owe the education he was able to acquire in the intervals between the busy seasons on the farm, for he was reared at home and early was given his tasks to perform about the house and in the fields. He follows diversified farming, which has brought him more than a mere living. Of late years the hard work has been lightened by the assistance of his sons, who are promising young men and display an aptitude for farming.

On the 17th of December, 1889, was performed the ceremony that made Hamilton A. Lowther and Miss Nellie Fewson man and wife. Mrs. Lowther is a

daughter of Michael and Sarah (Daly) Fewson, well known citizens of Greenfield township. Three children have been born of this union: James, Harry and Jay, all of whom live at home. A hard worker, a careful manager and thrifty farmer, Mr. Lowther is one of those that raise the standard of Greenfield township as a great farming community.

MRS. AMANDA J. SKILTON.

Mrs. Amanda J. Skilton, a well known and highly esteemed resident of Ridgefield township, making her home on her farm of sixty-five acres, was born at Galion, Crawford county, Ohio, her parents being John S. and Catharine (Neff) Davis. The family is an old one in this country, several representatives of the name having participated in the Revolutionary war. The place on which Mrs. Skilton lives is a portion of the original farm belonging to her great-grandfather, John Sowers, who owned seven hundred acres of land. The grandfather, John Sowers, was an early settler of Huron county, coming here in 1814. John S. Davis, the father of Mrs. Skilton, was born in Maryland in 1808 and passed away in the year 1888. His wife, whose birth occurred in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, in 1822, was called to her final rest in 1890. Their family numbered four children, namely: John S. Jr., who is now deceased; Amanda J., of this review; Kittie Belle, who has also passed away; and Mary E., who gave her hand in marriage to Thomas Latham and now resides in Monroeville, Ohio.

In 1865, at Galion, Ohio, Amanda J. Davis was united in marriage to Alva S. Skilton, a son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Wilson) Skilton, of Ravenna, Ohio. At the time of the Civil war Alva S. Skilton enlisted for service in the Union army, returning home at the end of his three months' term. A short time afterward he reenlisted and was soon made captain of Company I, Fifty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He underwent all of the hardships, privations and dangers incident to the life of a soldier, participated in a number of hotly contested engagements and was also a prisoner for a time. At the battle of Pittsburg Landing he received a wound and was sent home to recuperate, again joining the army when his health had been restored. He was captured at Atlanta and was on his way to be exchanged as a prisoner of war when the news of Lincoln's assassination was received. When hostilities had ceased and the supremacy of the Union had been established he returned to Galion and in 1866 came to Monroeville, Ohio, where he became engaged in the grain business and conducted an elevator. For a number of years he was also an engineer on the Big Four Railroad and was widely recognized as a most substantial, progressive and respected citizen of his community. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, while his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church, in which he served as junior warden. He attained the Knight Templar degree in Masonry and organized the G. A. R. post at Monroeville, of which he was the first commander. His death occurred July 27, 1887.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Skilton were born four children. John D., living in Cheshire, Connecticut, wedded Miss Ida Beistle, of Pennsylvania, by whom he had three

children: Henry A.; Jane D., who is deceased; and John D. He is a graduate of the public schools of Monroeville, the Kenyon College and also of Divinity School at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and for a number of years was assistant rector to Dr. Bates of St. Paul's church at Cleveland. Later he was assistant rector at the American church at Nice, France, but is now headmaster of the schools of Cheshire, Connecticut. Elizabeth, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Skilton, attended Oberlin College and now makes her home with her mother. Mary Grace, who obtained her education in the schools of Gambier, gave her hand in marriage to Clarence L. Powley and resides at Monroeville. Catharine, the youngest member of the family, who likewise acquired her education at Gambier, lives with her mother.

The different members of the family belong to the Episcopal church, in the work of which they are deeply and helpfully interested. Mrs. Skilton and two of her daughters live in a commodious and attractive brick residence on her farm of sixty-five acres in Ridgefield township and the place is lacking in none of the equipments and accessories of a model farming property of the twentieth century. She has an extensive circle of friends throughout the community where she has now long resided, her many good traits of heart and mind having endeared her to all with whom she has come in contact.

C. A. SCHEID.

A well improved and highly developed farm of one hundred and forty acres, situated in Sherman township, is the home of C. A. Scheid. His birth occurred in February, 1867, and he has remained a resident of Sherman township throughout his entire life. His parents, Jacob and Barbara (Beilstein) Scheid, who were natives of Germany, became early settlers of Huron county, Ohio. Their family numbered ten children, namely: William and Elizabeth, both of whom are now deceased; Emma; C. A., of this review; Henry; Minnie; George; John; Fred; and Albert.

C. A. Scheid attended the district schools until twelve years of age and then became identified with general agricultural pursuits, in which he has been successfully engaged to the present time. In 1906 he bought his present farm of one hundred and forty acres from his father and has since been busily engaged in its operation, the well tilled fields annually yielding golden harvests of grain. Everything about the place indicates that he is in touch with the modern spirit of progress which is manifest in agricultural lines.

On the 21st of October, 1897, Mr. Scheid was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Boehler, a daughter of William and Mary Boehler, residents of Monroeville, Ohio. She was the eldest in a family of eight children, her brothers and sisters being as follows: Anna, who has passed away; August; Minnie, who is likewise deceased; Amanda; Edith; Karl, and Elmer. Mr. and Mrs. Scheid now have four children: Mabel, who was born in 1897; Ada, whose birth occurred in 1899; Marion, born in 1904 and Olive, in 1905.

Mr. Scheid gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party and has served as road supervisor, in which position he proved a most capable and faithful incumbent. He and his family are all members of the Lutheran church. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his community. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of Huron county and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

ED. L. YOUNG.

Ed. L. Young, editor of The Bee Hive national organ of the Knights of the Maccabees of the World, was born in New Haven, Huron county, Ohio, January 19, 1864, his parents being Morgan and Amelia (House) Young. The father was born March 9, 1819, and the mother's birth occurred April 20, 1823. The father, Morgan Young, for a time attended the old Norwalk Academy, in which school his future wife was at the same time a student. They were married on the 29th of November, 1846, and established their home at North Monroeville, Ohio, where Mr. Young engaged in general farming; they moved to New Haven, Huron county, some years after. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, namely: Lucy, who was born October 5, 1847; Louisa, October 22, 1848; Mehetta, December 15, 1852; Julius N., November 7, 1854; Albert, March 10, 1857; Clara, who was born June 5, 1861, and died September 6, 1863; and Ed. L. and Edna, twins, whose birth occurred January 19, 1864. The death of the husband and father occurred September 24, 1884 in Ripley township; the mother is still living.

In the common schools, Ed. L. Young mastered the early branches of English learning and subsequently engaged in teaching. He has always been of a studious nature and his reading and research have covered a wide range. Leaving the teacher's profession, he entered the field of journalism in Norwalk and was with The Chronicle for eight years, four of these as editor. He became state manager for the Knights of the Maccabees of the World in 1892, and in 1901, became the national editor of the order, retaining position as manager for Ohio also. When he assumed the office of manager the order numbered four thousand in Ohio and thirteen thousand in the United States. Now there is a membership of thirty-seven thousand in Ohio, with three hundred thousand in the country, representing three hundred and fifty million dollars in insurance, protection of members in five thousand tents. Mr. Young's advocacy of the order through the columns of the paper has done not a little to further its interests and he is widely and favorably known among the representatives of the fraternity in this country.

On the 20th of March, 1884, Mr. Young was married to Miss Carrie M. Houfstetter, a native of Ripley township, Huron county, and a daughter of Jacob M. and Rowena (Carpenter) Houfstetter, who were pioneer residents of

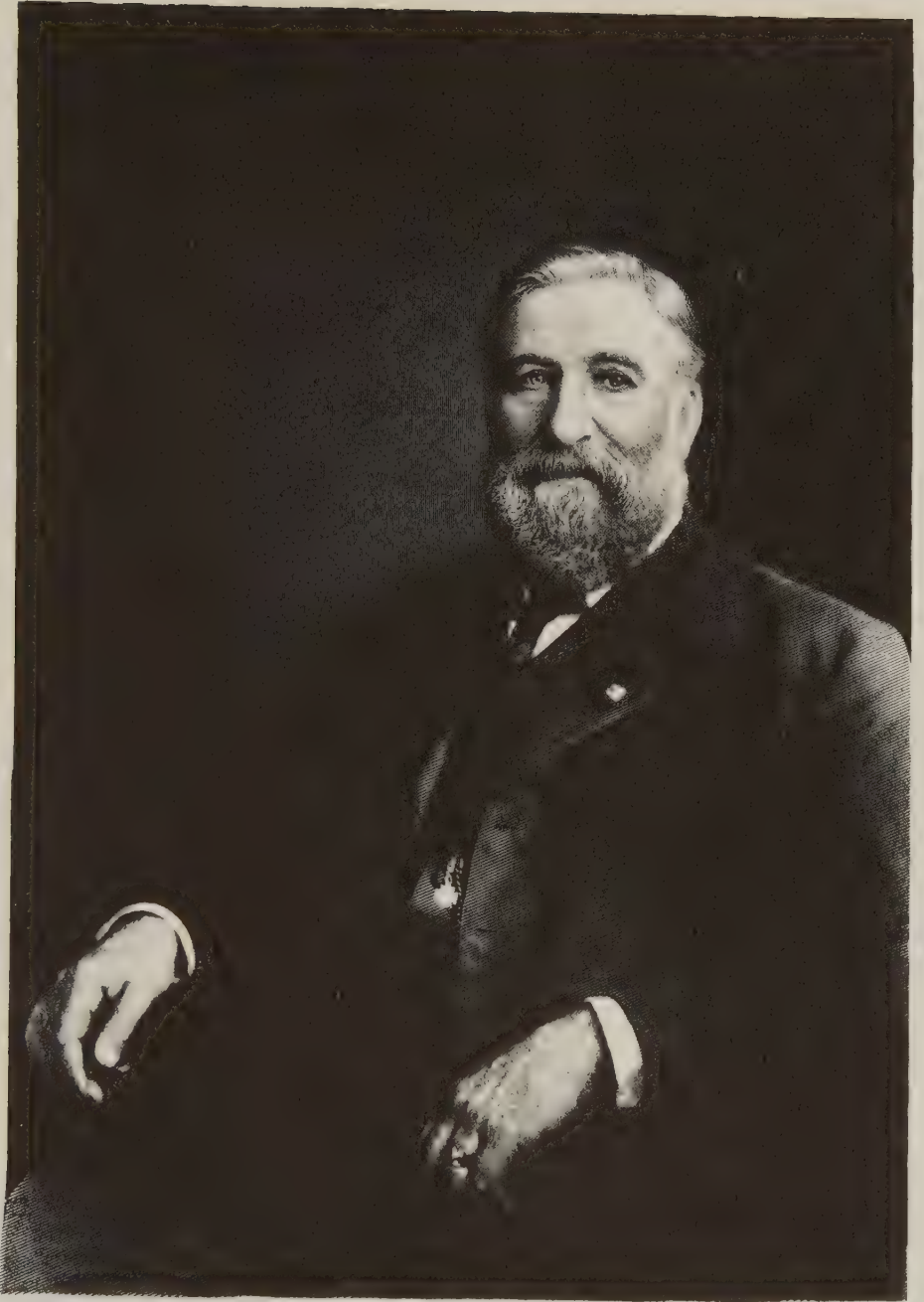
this county. Her grandfather, Rev. Orson Carpenter, was one of the early Baptist preachers of this part of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Young have become parents of two children: Ethel M., who was born March 10, 1885, and died April 2, 1891; and Arthur F., who was born July 31, 1889, and is now a law student in Western Reserve University.

Mr. Young is identified with several other organizations in addition to the Maccabees, being now affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree. He is a man of good business ability, who is now bending his energies to administrative direction and executive control as manager of the paper which has the support of and is the expression of the best interests of the Knights of the Maccabees.

D. W. RUMBAUGH, M. D.

Dr. D. W. Rumbaugh, president of the Huron County Medical Association, who has successfully practiced in Huron county since 1878, opening his office in Chicago Junction in 1891, was born in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, August 24, 1846. His father, Isaac Rumbaugh, was a native of Northampton county, Pennsylvania, born December 23, 1815, and in 1819, he accompanied his parents on their removal to Chester township, Wayne county, Ohio. The mother of the Doctor was Mrs. Mary Rumbaugh, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and arrived in Green township, Wayne county, Ohio, in 1835. On the 8th of March, 1838, she gave her hand in marriage to Isaac Rumbaugh and they have become the parents of five children. The father lived and died in Wayne county, passing away in 1888. He had long survived his wife who died in 1851. Tracing back the ancestral history of the family, we learn that the first Rumbaughs in America, were located here in 1764, in which year three brothers sailed from Germany and settled in Connecticut. Of these Henry and Solomon Rumbaugh served as loyal soldiers of the American army in the Revolutionary war, while the other brother, David Rumbaugh, went to Canada and was never heard from again. In 1797, Henry Rumbaugh settled in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and was the father of twenty-five children, all of whom married and reared families.

Dr. Rumbaugh, a descendant of that family, was educated in the public schools, continuing his studies until he was graduated from the Smithville (Ohio) high school. Eventually, he pursued a course in the university at Canton, Missouri, and then, taking up the study of medicine, attended lectures and studied at Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery. He was graduated from the medical department of the University of Wooster at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1873, and commenced practice in Polk, Ashland county, where he remained for five years. On the expiration of that period, he opened an office at Greenwich, Huron county, where he remained from 1878 until 1891. In that year, he came to Chicago Junction and has in the intervening years, sustained an enviable reputation as one of the leading practitioners of the county. His patronage is continually



D. W. Rumbough M. D.

increasing, for he has given proof of his ability to successfully cope with the intricate problems that continually confront the physician. In the diagnosis of his cases, he is very careful and his professional brethren entertain high respect for his judgment. Moreover, he closely conforms to a high standard of professional ethics. In addition to his private practice, he is acting as surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company and he belongs to the Association of Baltimore & Ohio Railway Surgeons, to the International Association of Railway Surgeons, to the American Medical Association, to the Ohio State Medical Association and to the Huron County Medical Society, being president of the last named.

On the 23d of March, 1871, Dr. Rumbaugh was married to Miss Sarah A. Jones, who died in 1883 and in 1888, he was again married, his second union being with Jennie Graham, a native of Greenfield township, Huron county, and a daughter of Alexander Graham, one of the earliest settlers of this part of the state. There were three children of the first marriage: Hattie O., now the wife of Thomas McMahon; Samuel C.; and Bertha M., now Mrs. Keith Van Horn, of Chicago, Ohio.

Dr. Rumbaugh has always been an active democrat and has ever taken a helpful interest in party work, doing everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of the party. While living at Polk, he served as a member of the board of education and also of the town council. He rendered similar service at Greenwich and at Chicago Junction and has likewise served as a member of the board of public affairs in this place. His work has at all times been of a beneficial nature, being actuated by a public-spirited devotion to the general good. Fraternally Dr. Rumbaugh is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a Mason of high rank, belonging to Golden Rule Lodge, No. 562, F. & A. M.; Golden Rule Chapter, No. 167, R. A. M.; Norwalk Commandery, No. 18, K. T.; and Lake Erie Consistory and is also a director in the Chicago, Ohio Temple Company. He is in thorough sympathy with the beneficent spirit of the craft, which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness and in practice, he utilizes the opportunities to bring its principles into active play.

ASHER M. COLE.

Asher M. Cole is the sole owner of the beautiful homestead property of one hundred and twenty-five acres just outside of the city limits of Norwalk whereon the Cole family has lived for many years. He is one of the best known citizens of Huron county, respected and honored wherever known and most of all where best known. In tracing the ancestry of the family we find that the first authentic record is of one John Cole, who was born in England in 1670. His son and namesake, born in the same country in 1705, came to America in colonial days and spent the latter portion of his life in Connecticut. He was twice married, his first wife being a sister of Benjamin Franklin, while his second wife, bore the maiden name of Mary Brown. John Cole was the father of six children, two sons and four daughters, the eldest of whom was John, while the second was named Thomas. The lat-

ter was born in Windham county, Connecticut, August 25, 1735, and on the 7th of December, 1757, he married Miss Miriam Kinne, by whom he had the following children: Silas, Amos, Spencer, Levi, Thomas, Jeremiah, Samuel, Mary, Eunice and Marion. The descendants of this family are very numerous and are scattered throughout many portions of the United States.

Levi Cole, the fourth son of Thomas and Miriam (Kinne) Cole, was born November 30, 1766, in Windham county, Connecticut, was married November 25, 1790, and died in Norwalk, Ohio, February 11, 1820. His wife, Hannah Kinne, was born in Windham county, Connecticut, July 24, 1770, and died at Norwalk, Ohio, February 27, 1840. They had seven sons and two daughters, namely: Jeremiah, born March 7, 1795, came to Ohio in 1815 and died July 30, 1818; Asher, born April 23, 1797, came to Ohio in 1816 and died November 4, 1830; James, who was born April 25, 1799, and came to Ohio in 1816, was married January 15, 1824, to Miss Philena Johnson, who was born October 4, 1802, and they had four sons and one daughter: Albert, born October 2, 1824; Bryan, who was born March 7, 1828, and died May 10, 1863; Starry H., who was born March 6, 1831, and died October 30, 1876, after having served for ninety days as a soldier of Company B, One Hundred Sixty-sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with the rank of second lieutenant; George W., who was born February 22, 1835 and died January 6, 1893, after having served for three years in the Third Ohio Cavalry; and Maria, who was born August 13, 1841, and died January 1, 1892. The father of these children died December 26, 1881, and the mother passed away on the 30th of April of the same year. Levi Cole, Jr., son of Levi Cole, Sr., was born March 23, 1801, came to Ohio in 1816, and died in Richfield township, Huron county. Miner, born July 26, 1803, came to Ohio in 1816 and died in Norwalk. Manley K., born February 11, 1807, came to Ohio in 1816. Lyman, born March 10, 1810, arrived in this state in 1816 and died October 10, 1853. The daughters were Hannah, who was born March 11, 1792, and died August 24, 1795; and Ardelia, who was born December 4, 1811, and died May 8, 1812.

In 1813 Levi Cole, Sr., was living in Herkimer county, New York, where he met with financial reverses after his marriage and in that year, in company with Major David Underhill and Timothy Baker, he came to Ohio to look at lands owned by Mr. Underhill in Richfield township, Huron county. The land and prospect suited him and he arranged for the purchase of a tract adjoining the farm of Sidney Brown, after which he returned home. In 1815 he again came to Ohio accompanied by his son Jeremy, by Horace Morse, Dr. Joseph Pierce and David Underhill. He at once erected a house on his land, began clearing away the timber and otherwise prepared for bringing his family the next year. In the fall, leaving his son Jeremy to look after the place and continue the improvements, he returned home. During this visit, on the 16th of July, 1815, Levi Cole, with Major Underhill and Dr. Joseph Pierce, brushed out a trail, or road, from Abijah Comstock's place to the Sand Ridge, now Norwalk. At night they returned to Mr. Comstock's home and the next day started out and completed their work through the Underhill place on the 17th. This was the first highway labor done on Main street. They followed the old Indian trail, which came out on the Ridge road somewhere between Main and Chatham streets. In January, 1816, Mr. Cole and Major Underhill started with their families and such goods and supplies as they might re-

quire in their new homes, with six teams and sleighs, three to each family. The party contained twenty people. After spending six weeks on the road, including a five days rest at Avery, the old county seat, they reached Major Underhill's place on the 22d of February, 1816. The Huron river was then so high that Mr. Cole could not cross with his family and teams to his own house, so he took them to the home of Dr. Pierce and soon afterward purchased the place and remained there as long as he lived. In 1818 Mr. Cole took a prominent part in the movement which culminated in the removal of the county seat to Norwalk. On February 9, 1820, Mr. Cole was engaged in hauling a large saw log and one of his legs, owing to an accident in unloading, was caught between the logs and so terribly crushed that he died two days afterward.

Levi and Hannah Cole had several children, of whom the following is a brief record: Colonel Asher Cole, the second son, was married January 6, 1828, to Narcissa Lawrence and they had a son, Asher, who was born November 12, 1828, and on October 19, 1859, married Miss Sarah J. Purdy. He died May 29, 1885, leaving a widow and seven children.

Miner Cole, the fifth son, was born July 26, 1803, in Herkimer county, New York, where he received his school training. In 1816 he came to Huron county, Ohio, with his father, making his home on a farm of one hundred acres in Norwalk township. In addition to his elementary education he attended Norwalk Academy for one term and further improved his mind by home study and close observation of men and events. On July 30, 1840, he married Miss Mary A. Allen, of Ripley township, born November 7, 1819, a daughter of Hiram Allen, of near Utica, New York. After his marriage Miner Cole continued to engage in general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred August 20, 1885. He was a republican in politics and served his township faithfully as a trustee.

Asher M. Cole, the only son of Miner Cole, was born November 19, 1843, on the farm in Norwalk township which he now owns and occupies. He attended the public schools of the neighborhood and at the same time was trained to the work of the farm under his father's direction. He was twenty years of age when in response to the country's call for troops he offered his services to the government and was mustered in on the 15th of May, 1864, as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was first engaged on garrison duty at Arlington Heights, where he remained until September of the same year when his term of enlistment expired and he was honorably discharged. Prior to joining the United States Volunteer army he served for some time with the Home Guards.

On the 5th of March, 1869, Asher M. Cole was married to Miss Louisa E. Channing, who was born in Somersetshire, England, November 21, 1846, and at the age of five years was brought to Huron county, Ohio, where her youthful days were spent upon a farm. They had one child, Miner A. Cole, born August 26, 1880. During the same year they adopted a bright little boy of six years, named Orill Allen, a distant relative. Miner A. Cole, the son, was married May 11, 1902, to Miss Elizabeth M. Fisher, whose birth occurred May 2, 1886. They have a charming little daughter, Verna Louise K. Cole. Orill A. Cole, the legally adopted son, married Miss Carrie Cassady, who was educated at Akron, Ohio. She is a daughter of Frank and Sarah Cassady, and has two children, Winfred Elizabeth

and Allen Cassady. Orill A. Cole occupies a fine position in Toronto, Canada, and is making steady progress in the business world.

With the exception of the time which he spent as a soldier in the Civil war, Asher M. Cole remained upon the home farm with his parents until he reached his majority, at which time his father gave him a team and some farming tools, and he then began operating the old homestead. He was there busily employed in carrying on general agricultural pursuits until 1881, when he rented a farm, paying five hundred dollars per year, for a term of five years, and also taking care of his father in his declining days, or until the father's demise. After the expiration of his lease Asher M. Cole became sole owner of the beautiful homestead property of one hundred and twenty-five acres, lying just outside the corporation limits of Norwalk. His son is now operating the farm and living at home with his parents.

Mr. Cole has always been interested in the cause of education and for several terms has acceptably served as a member of the school board. He has been a successful farmer and a most useful and well known representative of Huron county's broad minded citizens. Both he and his wife are members of the Universalist church and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. His life has at all times been an upright one and he is justly accounted among the most honored and respected citizens of Norwalk township.

HARRY H. AND WILLARD E. MARSH.

Harry H. and Willard E. Marsh are successfully engaged in the conduct of a dry goods establishment in Norwalk under the firm style of The Marsh Company. Their paternal grandparents were Abram Reynolds and Sarah L. Marsh, the former born at Rahway, New Jersey, on the 8th of July, 1800, while the latter's birth occurred in Orange, New Jersey, March 8, 1802. After coming to this state Abram R. Marsh made his home for many years on a farm in Ridgefield township, Huron county, and was more than ninety years of age when called to his final rest. For a long period he acted as an elder in the Presbyterian church, the teachings of which he exemplified in his daily life, his upright and honorable career winning him the regard and admiration of all with whom he was associated.

The maternal grandfather of H. H. and W. E. Marsh was Jonas Hinkley, who was born in Elizabethtown, Essex county, New York, September 21, 1816, and accompanied his parents on their removal to Huron, Ohio, in 1841. He and his brother, Philander Hinkley, were awarded the contract for the construction of the first railroad through Huron and he was also engaged in mercantile pursuits there for several years. The year of 1859 witnessed his arrival in Norwalk and during the period of his residence here he devoted his time and energies to perfecting a number of practical and useful inventions which had long occupied his attention and which he eventually succeeded in patenting. He was a man of considerable inventive genius and one of the most expert mechanics in the country and was the originator of a sewing machine which was afterward



Charles E. Marsh

manufactured in Norwalk by the firm of Hinkley & Wildman. He realized quite a fortune through his invention of the first knitting machine for the knitting of hosiery—a machine that was manufactured at Biddeford, Maine. Many other useful, valuable and original devices were the outcome of his mechanical skill and ingenuity, including a carpet sweeper. He was a great reader of books and papers bearing upon mechanics and sciences and his wonderful mind was wholly absorbed in study and investigation along these lines. Though quiet and retiring in disposition, he was very entertaining in manner and speech and his genial, kindly nature made him popular with a large circle of friends. His demise occurred when he had reached the ripe old age of seventy-five years.

Charles E. Marsh, the father of the gentlemen whose names initiate this review, was born in Coshocton, Ohio, on the 28th of August, 1840, and was one of a large family of children. In 1860 he made his way to Norwalk, securing a clerkship in the dry goods house of Beardsley & Brother, with whom he continued until 1862, when he enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of the One Hundred and First Ohio Infantry. His health failing, however, he was eventually honorably discharged on account of physical disability. Returning to Norwalk, he again entered the employ of Beardsley & Brother and subsequently worked in a clerical capacity for Watson & Lovrien and Wooster & Patrick. In 1872, feeling that his training and experience in mercantile lines justified him in starting out in business life on his own account, he established a dry goods store in association with Mrs. S. B. Pease. In 1880 the style of the firm was changed to Marsh & Jackson and in 1887 became known as Marsh & Bloxham, thus continuing until the death of the partners, Mr. Marsh passing away on the 21st of June, 1906, while A. T. Bloxham died in the following November. Mr. Marsh was probably one of the best salesmen and judges of dry goods in the country. He established his mercantile enterprise on borrowed capital but as the years went by won a most gratifying measure of prosperity as the result of his well directed and untiring energy, guided by sound judgment and keen discrimination. Brooking no obstacles that honest effort could overcome, he steadily worked his way upward until he gained a place among the leading merchants of the county. His personal characteristics, too, were such as commanded the admiration and respect of all with whom he came in contact and in Norwalk, where he made his home for almost a half century, he was well known and highly esteemed as one of its most honored residents.

On the 7th of February, 1866, Charles E. Marsh was united in marriage to Miss Ellen A. Hinkley, a daughter of Jonas Hinkley, who was of Scotch descent. The birth of Mrs. Marsh occurred in 1844, and by her marriage she became the mother of four children, all of whom obtained their preliminary education in Norwalk. Harry H. is the eldest son of the family. Charles R., who attended business college at Poughkeepsie, New York, and also a military school at Roslyn, Long Island, is now a manufacturer of wire specialties in Cleveland. As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life he chose Miss Alice Widlar. Willard E. is the next in order of birth. Lewis C., the youngest son of Charles E. and Ellen A. (Hinkley) Marsh, was called to his final rest in 1898.

Harry H. Marsh completed his education in a private school at Buffalo and is now at the head of the extensive dry goods enterprise established by his father,

the business being at present conducted under the name of The Marsh Company. The house enjoys an extensive and profitable patronage, owing to its straightforward and reliable business policy. In 1891 was celebrated the marriage of H. H. Marsh and Miss Clara C. Poor, a daughter of Richard D. Poor, of old New England stock. By this union there are two children, Richard C. and Irene C.

When a lad of sixteen years Willard E. Marsh took up the study of photography and for thirteen years remained a successful representative of that art. Since the death of his father, however, he has been associated with his brother in the conduct and management of the Marsh dry goods establishment and, like his brother, is recognized throughout the community as a most substantial, enterprising and progressive business man and citizen. On the 26th of October, 1906, he wedded Miss Bessie M. Watts, a daughter of Joseph Watts, of Oak-harbor, Ohio. They have a little daughter, Asenath R., born June 24, 1908.

AMOS K. EASTMAN.

Amos K. Eastman, who is well known in agricultural circles, owning and cultivating eighty-eight acres of good land in Peru township, is numbered among the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred March 9, 1884, in the house in which he now resides. He is a son of Elbridge G. E. Eastman, who was born in Bronson township, Huron county, April 17, 1838. He has always remained a resident of Ohio and is now living in Richland county. He is a son of Seba A. Eastman, who came from Vermont and settled in Crawford county, Ohio. About 1835 he removed to Greenfield township, Huron county, and was identified with farming interests in this locality until his death, which occurred in Peru township in 1850. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mary Jane Kendall and came from New York to Ohio with her parents, Amos and Mary J. (Richy) Kendall, the family settling in Peru township about 1848. Mrs. Eastman is still living at the age of sixty-three years, her birth having occurred June 9, 1846. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge Eastman were born four children, namely: Effie G., who married J. W. Billiard, of Seneca county, Ohio; Grace, who married Henry Sulser, of Marion county, Ohio, and had four children, Cleo, Kasia, Garry, and Bernice, who has passed away. Garry E., residing with his parents, who married Ida Boose, by whom he has the following children: Wayne, Gladys, Alice and Bernice and Amos K., of this review.

Amos K. Eastman has always resided upon the farm which is now his home, his father having purchased the property from Laurence Ott. Since the son came into possession of the place he has made a number of substantial improvements thereon and his farm is regarded as one of the desirable properties of the county. He is diligent, persistent and practical in all that he undertakes and has been quite successful in cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate. Throughout his entire life he has engaged in farming and his broad practical experience and undaunted energy make him a leading agriculturist of the community.

Amos K. Eastman was united in marriage to Elnora M. Smith, a daughter of Ambrose and Libby (Shild) Smith, of Peru township, the wedding being celebrated on the 4th of June, 1908. They now have a little daughter, Elizabeth Jane Lola, born on the 6th of July, 1909. Mr. Eastman is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, belonging to the tent at Norwalk. Both he and his wife have a wide circle of warm friends in the community and are popular among those who know them.

THOMAS J. BROWN.

Thomas J. Brown, a prosperous farmer and stock man of Clarksfield township, was born March 16, 1848, in Sherman township, Huron county, and is the son of William and Elizabeth (Greer) Brown, the former of whom was born in Geneva, Seneca county, New York, but came as a small child with his parents to Ohio. Thomas H. Brown, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was of Irish birth and came to this country at the age of seventeen. He was the eldest of a family of twenty-three children, his father having been twice married, and having by his first wife six, and by his second seventeen children, all of whom lived to young manhood and young womanhood. On coming to this country, the family settled first in Baltimore, Maryland, which they forsook after a few years for Seneca, New York. Later John and Thomas H. Brown came to Ohio, locating in Ashland county, near Jeromesville, where the latter lived until he was nearly eighty years of age. He engaged in farming and stock raising and feeding, and became a large landowner, many of his tracts being situated in other townships. During the war of 1812, he served as a soldier, and at one time made the journey from Cleveland to Old Portland, now Sandusky, in a row boat. He died at McComb, from the results of an accidental injury, at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. He had been a man of means, interested and prominent in all public affairs.

His son, William, the father of Thomas J. Brown, was born in Seneca county, New York, and came to Huron county, Ohio, prior to his marriage. Here he engaged in general farming and stock raising and became an influential man in his community. For a number of years, he was treasurer of Norwich township, his home at the time, and he also served as township trustee and as a member of the school board for a long period. He and his family belonged to the United Brethren church, the Union chapel congregation or class of which denomination Mr. and Mrs. Brown has helped to establish. In fact when Mrs. Brown died, April 10, 1908, the last of the original charter members had passed away. Mr. Brown had died eight years previously, at about the age of seventy-seven, six years younger than his wife when she responded to the call of death. Both husband and wife are buried in Norwich cemetery. In the affairs of Union chapel, Mr. Brown ever took an active part and was one of its trustees from its organization until his death. He was an upright man, whose influence was strongly felt in the community in which he lived. He was a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting in Company H, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He had a family of five sons: Thomas J., James E., Franklin H., William L., and

one who died in infancy. Those living are all farmers and prominent in their respective localities.

Thomas J. Brown spent his boyhood and young manhood on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district schools of the county and in Milan Academy and the schools at Clyde and Geneva, Ohio. His own schooling completed, he engaged in teaching during the winter months in the schools of Seneca and Huron counties. During the summer, he worked on the farm. At the age of twenty-three, he engaged in mercantile business at Havana, Norwich township, to which he devoted his time for about two and a half years, after which he returned to farming in Norwich township, which was his home until March 10, 1904, when he removed to Clarksfield township. During these years, he has pursued a general line of agriculture and has also engaged in the breeding of short horn cattle. In the latter work, he has attained quite a reputation beyond the township borders, for his animals are shipped to distant markets, where they are recognized as being of fine, pure breed, and many stockmen have bred cattle from his stock. He also raises silver Wyandotte poultry, of a high order. His farm, one hundred acres in extent, is under a fine state of cultivation and gives rich returns for the labor expended upon it.

On the 23d of October, 1873, Mr. Brown was married to Mrs. Jennie Knoles, the widow of Smith Knoles and the daughter of Dennis Downing, of Penn Yan, New York, but who at the time of her marriage was living in Seneca county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had no children of their own but have taken three children of other families into their home, and have given them all the educational opportunities and advantages that they would give to their own offspring.

In politics, Mr. Brown has been rather independent. For twenty years he voted the prohibition ticket, but of late years has voted for whatever men and measures appealed to his idea of right. He has always shown a great interest in public matters, and never fails to exercise his right of franchise, but he has never sought an office at the disposition of the people. He keeps well posted on all matters of general concern and is well able to defend his position, taken after he has convinced himself of its justness, against all opposition. In religious matters, he gives his allegiance to the Congregational church, in which he holds the position of deacon. In the Sunday school, he is a teacher and assistant superintendent, for he has ever shown a deep concern for the progress of the work of the church and the school.

LOUIE SCHICK.

Louie Schick, successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Ridgefield township, Huron county, was born in Germany on the 19th of May, 1870, and is a son of Peter and Wilhelmina Schick. The parents, who were also natives of the fatherland, came to the United States in 1883 and settled in Milan, Ohio, where they resided for about six months. On the 1st of March of the following year, they removed to Ridgefield township, Huron county, where the father purchased thirty-eight acres of land, which is still in his possession. He and his wife be-

came the parents of four children, namely: William; Jacob; Wilhelmina, the wife of Henry Klein; and Louie, of this review. Both parents still survive while the father who devoted his life to farming pursuits now lives retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil.

Louie Schick spent the years of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, acquiring his education in the district schools, while the periods of vacation were devoted to the work of the fields. After laying aside his text-books, however, he became identified with railroading, being employed upon the work train for four years, and he also spent some time in the boiler shop. Later he severed his connection with the railroad business and resumed agricultural pursuits, renting a farm of fifty-two acres, which he continues to operate and upon which he makes his home. He owns thirteen acres of land which, in connection with his father's farm, he also cultivates. He is up-to-date and progressive in his methods, carrying on his business along strictly modern lines, while his various interests, carefully managed and directed, are bringing to him gratifying returns.

Mr. Schick has been twice married. In 1899, he wedded Miss Bertha Bower, a daughter of William Bower, of this county, who was a native of Germany. Unto this union was born one daughter, Louisa. The wife and mother was called away to her final rest in 1905, while two years later, in 1907, Mr. Schick married Miss Louisa Bower, a sister of his former wife. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and is public-spirited in his citizenship, lending his aid to all measures and movements which have for their object the substantial and permanent development and upbuilding of the community. Honorable and upright in all of his dealings, he has won the respect and confidence of those with whom he is associated, and he is held in high regard by a large circle of warm friends.

O. C. LITZKEY.

O. C. Litzkey, as superintendent of the Bellevue water works, is well known here and the record which he has made in all official business relations, has won him the unqualified respect and confidence of his fellow townsmen. He is numbered among Ohio's native sons for his birth occurred in Fremont on the 16th of July, 1864, his parents being John and Minnie (Nash) Litzkey, both of whom were natives of Germany, who, coming to America, spent their last days in this country, the father dying at the age of sixty-five years, while the mother passed away at the age of sixty-seven. They were the parents of ten children: Tillie, deceased; Lizzie, the wife of Dan McGrady; Lena, John and Mary, all of whom have passed away; and four who died in infancy.

The other member of the family is O. C. Litzkey, whose name introduces this record. He was reared in the place of his nativity and, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, was afforded the opportunities for the acquirement of an education in the public schools. In the periods of vacation, he worked upon the farm and after putting aside his text-books, he gave his time and energies to farm work and also was employed at the Ohio Cultivator Plant at Fremont, where he filled the responsible position of foreman of the shipping depart-

ment. After the removal of the plant to Bellevue, he came to this city and retained his position in connection with that corporation a quarter of a century. No higher testimonial of his faithfulness, capability and of the confidence reposed in him could be given than the fact that he was associated with the business in the responsible position of foreman for twenty-five years. He resigned on his appointment as superintendent of the water works, January 6, 1909, and he is now serving in that capacity.

At Fremont on the 29th of June, 1886, Mr. Litzkey was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hilt, a daughter of Peter Hilt, of that place. They became the parents of two children, but lost the first born, Anna, at the age of two years. The surviving daughter, Lula, is at home. The parents are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Litzkey is widely and prominently known in fraternal circles. He is now acting as treasurer of the Forester lodge, is treasurer and one of the trustees of the Eagle lodge and is a member of the German Beneficial Union and the German Aid Society. These latter indicate the broad humanitarian spirit which actuates him in all his relations with his fellowmen. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and for ten years, he served as a member of the city council, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many measures for the public good. He has ever advocated retrenchment in public expenditure yet never to the extent of blocking progress or excluding needed public improvements. In his present office, he is giving an administration that is characterized by system so that there is no loss of time, labor or material. His course is receiving uniform commendation and he well deserves classification with the public officials of whom Bellevue has had reason to be proud.

CALEB F. JACKSON.

Without invidious distinction, Caleb F. Jackson may be termed the foremost business man of Norwalk from the fact that his interests are most varied as well as extensive. Starting out in life on a humble financial plane, he has steadily worked his way upward and his careful management, coupled with unfaltering industry and keen discernment, have brought him to the position which he now occupies. Honored and respected by all there is no resident of Norwalk who fills a more enviable place in the commercial and financial circles of the city. He was born June 25, 1854, upon the old Jackson farm a mile and a half south of Norwalk, upon the old state road. His parents were Charles and Alberta (Fitch) Jackson and he is a great-grandson of Colonel Giles Jackson of Berkshire county, Massachusetts, who won fame as a colonel of infantry in the Revolutionary war and as chief of staff to Major General Gates he penned the article of surrender at Yorktown and Saratoga. The original articles of convention for the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga, October 16, 1877, signed by J. Burgoyne and Horatio Gates, are now in possession of C. F. Jackson at Norwalk, having been inherited by the "second son" for three generations. Numerous other historical Revolutionary papers of great value are preserved to be handed down to the second son, Thayer Elden Jackson. Charles Jackson, the father of our sub-



C. F. Jackson

ject, was a prominent farmer of Norwalk township, who spent six years of his early manhood in the employ of Shepherd Patrick as a salesman in his general store at Norwalk. Subsequently, he bought the Jackson farm homestead, which remained in the family for sixty years and his capable management of his business interests, placed him with the substantial agriculturists of Huron county.

Caleb F. Jackson attended the country school in Norwalk, district No. 3, until he prepared to enter high school in 1868. He was graduated therefrom in 1871 on the completion of a complete scientific and classical course of study. He had expected to study medicine, but the death of both parents left him the care of two sisters and a younger brother, a financial burden which made further study in school or college impossible. At the age of seventeen years, he began work in the dry-goods, grocery and drug store of Wooster & Patrick as "boy of all work," entering their employ on the 13th of November, 1871. Within three months, he was made a salesman and promotions followed rapidly. In 1873, he was head salesman in the drygoods department on a salary of a thousand dollars per year, which at that date was the largest salary paid any salesman in Norwalk—and he was not yet twenty years of age. In January, 1874, at the age of nineteen and a half years, he formed a copartnership with L. C. Prescott and purchased a drug and grocery store at Flint, Michigan. The firm of Prescott & Jackson possessed but twelve hundred dollars, but they had energy, determination and perseverance. They assumed a debt of five thousand dollars and after two years, with all the indebtedness discharged, C. F. Jackson sold his interests to his partner and returned to Norwalk to enter the employ of C. E. Marsh & Company, as salesman and manager of the interests of Mrs. S. P. Pease in the firm. His next advanced step was made in 1881, when he joined C. E. Marsh in organizing the firm of Marsh & Jackson for the purpose of opening a dry-goods and carpet store at No. 11 West Main street. Great financial success followed this venture for five years and in 1886 Mr. Jackson sold his interests to his partner and went to Minneapolis, Minnesota. In that growing city, he established the "Jackson Black Goods Store" which became known throughout the northwest as specializing in every known article of dry goods, black or white. Mr. Jackson was sole owner of the Minneapolis business and in seven years, had sufficient capital to warrant the stocking of a department store, which he could foresee at that early date, was the coming mercantile establishment of this country.

In the winter of 1892-3 Mr. Jackson, in partnership with H. H. Hoyt of Norwalk, purchased from the First Methodist Episcopal church of this city, their church property at the corner of Main street and Benedict avenue. In May, 1893, the old church was demolished to make room for the beautiful five-story brick and brown stone building known as The Glass Block. The building when complete, was leased to the Hoyt & Jackson Company, a corporation of which C. F. Jackson was the president, for a department store and was opened to the public November 29, 1893. This marked the beginning of a new era in mercantile affairs in Norwalk. In that day the department store was untried, except in the large cities and in Norwalk it was looked upon as a venturesome undertaking, which would probably result in failure. Mr. Jackson's perceptions of the business future, were much keener than the old-school merchants and instead of failure, the business was a great success and for sixteen years has paid its stock-

holders splendid dividends every year. In October, 1895, Mr. Jackson purchased his partner's interest in the Glass Block real estate and became sole owner of this valuable property. He also secured Mr. Hoyt's interest in the mercantile company and immediately changed the corporate name to The C. F. Jackson Company, which is so well known in the business world today.

Even after acquiring this valuable property, Mr. Jackson's ambition was not satisfied, for in 1902, he secured the first Glass Block Annex by a lease of a three-story brick block adjoining on the west, thereby increasing the floor space and obtaining better facilities to handle the vast growing trade. The business has been conducted on a cash basis with a fixed price and to these rules and the straightforward principles which have governed his commercial affairs, the success of Mr. Jackson is due. In 1904, in order to utilize surplus earnings, Mr. Jackson bought for the company a business block at Findlay, Ohio, for one hundred and thirty thousand dollars and established at that point a second Glass Block department store larger and more beautiful than the original store at Norwalk. His eldest son, Edward E. Jackson, was made vice-president of the company and general manager at Findlay. The success of the store at that place has been beyond the expectations of even its projector. In December, 1908, a second annex was added at Norwalk, comprising three floors with a frontage of sixty feet on Benedict avenue, giving the Norwalk store a total of ninety thousand square feet of sales room or nearly two and a half acres—a monument to the business foresight and executive ability of its founder. In addition to the general management of these great mercantile establishments, Mr. Jackson is interested in numerous manufacturing and business enterprises to which he devotes a portion of his time. He is president of the Norwalk Vault Company, vice-president of the Auto Buggy Company, treasurer of the Miller Anchor Company, a director of the Local Telephone Company, of the Interstate Ice Company and the Tinker Concrete Company, while in numerous other concerns, he is a stockholder, giving him diversified interests probably not exceeded by those of any other business man in Norwalk. For two years he has been the president of the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce, a strong organization of business men, looking after the welfare and prosperity of Norwalk's business interests.

On the 11th of November, 1874, Mr. Jackson was married to Miss Mary L. Stevens, of Norwalk and unto them have been born four children: Edward Everett, who was born January 2, 1876, and was married at Findlay, Ohio, September 1, 1905, to Miss Glenna Weil; Thayer Elden, born June 19, 1884; Kenneth Seymour, born July 9, 1886; and Hortense Ione, born March 16, 1891.

Mr. Jackson is not only well known because of the extent and importance of his business affairs, but also by reason of his co-operation in many interests and measures which relate to the individual or public welfare. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree, to the Knights of Pythias lodge, the Royal Arcanum, the Knights of the Maccabees and the National Union. He is a member of the Ohio Sons of the American Revolution and was for many years a member of the Shakespeare Club, Norwalk's leading literary and social club. He is likewise a liberal supporter of the Presbyterian church and for many years has served on its board of trustees. He has never become actively connected with politics or aspired to public office. He is

rather retiring in disposition, but most public-spirited and in a quiet and unostentatious way, has devoted much time and money to the public good. He finds his pleasure in his elegant home and his close, enduring friends and he deserves in the largest degree the respect and confidence as well as the success, which have been accorded him.

MILO F. JOHNSON.

Milo F. Johnson, a progressive and prosperous farmer of Norwalk township, was born in Peru township, July 21, 1859. His birth occurred on the old homestead farm taken up by his grandfather, Marcus Johnson, in the early part of the eighteenth century, which property is yet owned by one of his daughters, Mrs. Della M. Linder. He is a son of Luther B. Johnson, who was born on the 1st of November, 1822, in Elba, Genesee county, New York. He came west to Ohio with his parents, when eighteen months of age, settling on the old homestead farm in 1824. This continued to be his place of residence until 1888, when he retired from active life and came to Norwalk, where he passed away in April, 1905, at a ripe old age. The wife preceded him to the great beyond in May, 1895. He belonged to the Universalist church and was a staunch republican in politics. A successful and substantial farmer, he devoted his entire efforts to that line of activity, and, though quiet and unassuming in manner, was well known and honored for his strict integrity and his loyalty to the general good, doing all in his power to further the growth and upbuilding of the community in which he lived. His family consisted of three children, namely: Milo F., of this review; Della M., who passed away in August, 1909; and Mrs. Alma E. Call, of Williams county, Ohio.

Reared on the old homestead farm, Milo F. Johnson pursued his education in the district schools of Peru township and spent the years of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof. Upon attaining his majority, he decided to adopt as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits, with the exception of three years, when connected with the Ohio Metal Company. He has a finely improved place, equipped with good barns and outbuildings and all latest devices and equipments for facilitating the work of the farm. He is progressive and up-to-date in his methods and has attained a creditable degree of prosperity in his agricultural pursuits.

On the 24th of October, 1888, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Sadie E. Nicholson, and they have become the parents of one daughter, Helen B., born February 24, 1897. Mrs. Johnson is the daughter of William Nicholson, of Mansfield, Ohio, and is one of a family of six children. The father was born in England and came to Mansfield when twenty-three years of age. He had been a grocer in his native land and continued to engage in that line in this country. He passed away in 1887. His wife, who was also born in England, was brought by her parents to America when six weeks old. Her father, Charles Hutchinson, on his arrival in the United States, came direct to Huron county

where he settled on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Perry township, which is still in the family.

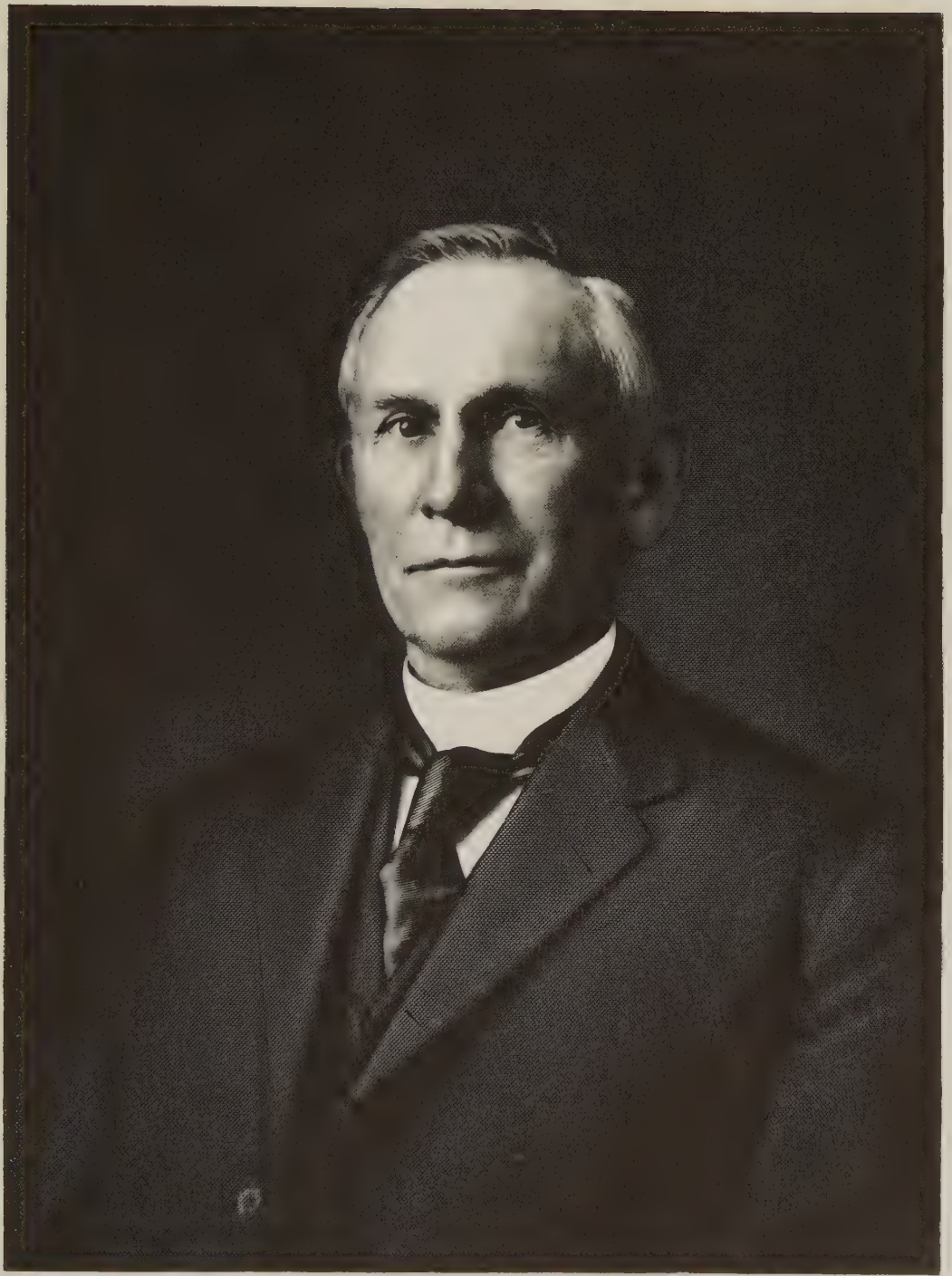
Mr. Johnson's church affiliations are with the Presbyterians, and he has given stalwart support to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served as township trustee for seven years and is still the incumbent in that office. Mr. Johnson has not only been industrious, but has evidenced in his transactions those qualities which make friends, and, being upright in all of his dealings and interested in the moral as well as the financial welfare of the community, he enjoys the confidence and respect of all who know him.

LEANDER L. DOUD.

Leander L. Doud, secretary of the A. B. Chase Company and thus connected with the manufacturing interests of Norwalk, is well known by reason of his activities in behalf of the best interests of the community, his influence always being on the side of right, justice, progress and improvement.

He is a descendent of Henry Doud, who came from Surrey county, England, in 1639, with a colony under the Rev. Henry Whitfield and settled in Guilford, Connecticut. His ancestry also traces back to the Tallmans, prominently identified with the history of Connecticut, Governor Tallman being one of the early governors of that state.

Mr. Doud was born in Huron county, Ohio, May 20, 1838, a son of Samuel and Philura (Niles) Doud, who were natives of New York and Vermont respectively. The paternal grandfather, Solomon Doud, was born in Connecticut and in 1823, after living some time in the Empire state, came to Huron county, settling in Greenwich township, where he made the first clearing and built him a house at the center of the township. The journey westward was made by way of the lakes to Sandusky, and thence with ox-teams through the woods to their destination. Samuel Doud was at that time a lad of ten years and through the period of his boyhood and youth he assisted as best he could in the arduous task of developing the new country, frequently clearing land on his own account. He boasted of the fact that he bought his farm of one hundred and six acres in the southeast corner of Greenwich township with his ax. Here, having cleared off a few acres of the timber and building a log cabin, he married Miss Philura Niles, a young school teacher from Vermont. A few years later he built one of the first colonial homes in that section of the county and here reared his family, Leander L. Doud, the subject of this sketch, being the eldest of six children. In 1868 the father removed to New London, Huron county, adjoining the corporation on the south. He was one of the influential and enterprising men of the community where he lived, took a prominent place in the business circles, acting for some time as director and vice-president of the New London National Bank, while in other connections his labors constituted an important element in the business activity of the district. He was a highly respected man, whose integrity was one of the salient points in his career. He was a leading and valued mem-



L. L. Doud

ber ot, and local preacher in the Methodist church. The last year of his life was devoted to the building of the present brick Methodist Episcopal church in New London, which he lived to see completed and paid for, taking up the last note a few days before his death, which occurred December 20, 1880.

Leander L. Doud acquired his early education in the country schools of this state, taught five seasons, and received his later education in the Norwalk Seminary, Savannah Academy, Baldwin University at Berea, Ohio, and the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. At the latter college it was his good fortune to come under the direct influence of the late Bishop McCabe as a fellow student, and of Bishop Thompson, then president of the institution. In his early twenties, Mr. Doud was engaged with his father in extensive stock-raising and wool-growing business, selling their products in the eastern markets of Boston and New York.

On September 10, 1863, he was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Bloom Eberly, a teacher in the public schools of Wood county, Ohio, and established his home on a farm in Greenwich township. Of their four children, two—Philura Semeramis and Ida Winifred—died in early childhood. A daughter, Louie Naomi, and a son, Harry Lea, are living, the latter an attorney of Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1866 Mr. Doud removed to New London, Ohio, where together with Albert White, he built the town hall block and engaged in merchandising for eight years, acting also as postmaster for several years. It was here that he formed the acquaintance of Captain A. B. Chase, who later became the founder and president of the company that bears his name. In 1875 he removed to Norwalk, Ohio, and joined with A. B. Chase and others in organizing the A. B. Chase Company for the manufacture of musical instruments. Being a charter member, Mr. Doud became its first secretary and treasurer and has continued as secretary and general manager to the present time. He has seen the business grow and prosper until it is one of the most important in Huron county, second to none of its kind in the state, with the highest reputation for organs, pianos and player-pianos that is world wide. His keen discrimination, his capable management and his undaunted enterprise have been salient features in its success. He has been watchful of all the details pointing to the growth and perfection of the business and has ever maintained a high standard in the character of the output, in the personnel of the house and in the nature of the service rendered to the public. In 1880 Mr. Doud built the Doud block, now the Maccabee Temple, at Norwalk, Ohio, and in 1882 erected his brick residence on West Main street.

Mr. Doud is an active Methodist and an enthusiastic Sunday-school worker. At the age of fifteen, soon after uniting with the church, he was elected secretary of the local Sunday school, and has held official relations with the church and Sunday school ever since. He was Sunday-school superintendent for over twenty-five years, frequently in the early days, superintending his home school in the morning and one in the country in the afternoon. He was for many years secretary or president of the Huron County Sunday School Association, president of the Huron county branch of the American Bible Society, and has for many years conducted a large adult Bible class in the Norwalk Methodist Sunday school.

Mr. Doud has acted as trustee of Baldwin University, Berea, Ohio, and of the Lakeside Association. He is a steward and trustee of the Norwalk Methodist Episcopal church, and was secretary of the building committee when their new stone edifice was erected.

In 1904 he was a delegate to the World's Fourth International Sunday school convention, which met at Jerusalem, and while abroad visited many points of ancient and modern historic interest. Being a keen observer, he profited by the knowledge which he gained concerning the social and religious work of the old world. Mr. Doud was a delegate also to the International Sunday School convention at Toronto, Canada, in 1907. He has been an extensive traveler, his business relations having taken him into nearly every state in the Union, and his vacation trips including Canada, Cuba, Mexico and countries of Europe, Asia and Africa. He is a well read man, a good writer on the subjects which he discusses and an original and strong thinker, and a man of high moral character. Realizing that the purposes of life are manifold and that the interests of the individual should touch many lines, he has not confined his attention to business affairs alone, but has been an interested and liberal supporter of education, of temperance, of church work, and in fact all movements for the general good.

GEORGE A. NICOLLS.

George A. Nicolls, residing on his well improved and valuable farm of one hundred and seventy acres in Bronson township, has been successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. His birth occurred in Cayuga county, New York, on the 30th of October, 1829, his parents being John and Sarah (Peck) Nicolls, the latter a native of Massachusetts. The paternal grandfather of our subject was William Nicolls, who served all through the Revolutionary war of 1776, and the maternal grandfather, Abijah Peck, served in the war of 1812 with the rank of major. John Nicolls, the father of George A. Nicolls, likewise did duty as a soldier in the war of 1812, serving throughout the entire conflict. In the year 1837, he brought his wife and children to Huron county, Ohio, the family home being established in Bronson township. This part of the state was still largely wild and undeveloped and he found it necessary to clear the land of the timber before it could be utilized for farming purposes. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, namely: Seymour, who died in infancy; William; Ray; Levina; Samantha; John; Abijah and George A.

George A. Nicolls, who was but a little lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to this county, early became familiar with the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist through the assistance which he rendered his father in the opening up and development of the latter's farm. Throughout his entire business career, he has devoted his time and energies to the work of general farming, in which he has won a substantial measure of success, being most practical and progressive in his methods. He is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and seventy acres in Bronson town-

ship, where he resides and is well entitled to be classed with the substantial and representative citizens of the community. He is one of the stockholders in the Sandusky, Norwalk and Mansfield Railroad.

On the 10th of March, 1870, Mr. Nicolls was united in marriage to Miss **Clarrissa Burnap**, a daughter of Job and Olive Burnap. Sarah and Mary, the two daughters born of this union, **are now deceased.**

Mr. Nicolls is a firm believer in the principles of the republican party and always casts his ballot in support of its men and measures. He has now been a resident of this county for seventy-two years and is therefore thoroughly familiar with its annals from a pioneer period down to the present time, having not only been an interested witness but also an active participant in the work of upbuilding and improvement. He has now reached the eightieth milestone on the journey of life and can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear, for his life has been characterized by honor and integrity in all relations.

LANNES LAMAR ANTRIM.

A history of Greenwich township would hardly be complete without mention of Lannes Lamar Antrim, one of the most prominent and highly respected citizens of the community. He was born in West Middleburg, Logan county, Ohio, January 10, 1841, a son of Joshua and Mary (Grubb) Antrim. His grandfather, Thomas Antrim, who came from Culpeper county, Virginia, was a Quaker and was the first minister of any denomination to arrive in Logan county, while his son, Daniel Antrim, was the first white child born in that county.

Joshua Antrim, the father of our subject, was identified with the tailoring business and was also a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church for some time, while later he became an adherent of the Swedenborgian faith. He was a man of great literary ability and a historian of broad information. He was also greatly interested at all times in the pioneer organizations of Logan and Champaign counties and at the solicitation of the Logan County Pioneer Society, in 1874, he prepared and published a history of that county. His death occurred in November, 1874. He had wedded Miss Mary Grubb and unto them were born twelve children, namely: Avarilla, the wife of Eli Cowgill; Lannes Lamar, of this review; Hester, the wife of William Stoop, of Ottumwa, Iowa; Elizabeth, the wife of Moses Euans; Matilda, deceased; Joseph, also deceased; Sarah, who wedded William Glasgow, of Muncie, Indiana; Ida and Anna, who have passed away; Thomas, residing in Columbus; Mary, deceased; and one who died in infancy. Joseph Antrim was a prominent minister of the Episcopal church and preached the funeral sermon over the remains of General Gordon, the well known and eloquent lecturer. He passed away several years ago in New Orleans.

In a home of culture and refinement, Lannes Lamar Antrim passed the days of his boyhood and youth, acquiring his education in the public schools of West Middleburg, and at the age of sixteen years took up the blacksmith's trade, in which line of work he has continuously engaged to the present time. He remained in his native town until 1896, when he came to Greenwich and has since made

his home in this city. Here he has devoted his time and energies to the conduct of his business affairs, in which he has met with most gratifying success.

On the 18th of January, 1862, Mr. Antrim was united in marriage to Miss Anna Prall, a daughter of Isaac and Catherine (Hutchins) Prall, natives of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio about the year 1844. Her father was a prominent horse dealer and bought horses for the government during the period of the Mexican war, being considered an expert in this line of business. He passed away many years ago in Logan county. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Antrim was blessed with six children, as follows: Catherine, the wife of Scott Norvall, of Arizona; Jessie, engaged in teaching in the public schools of Cleveland; Homer, deceased; Louise, also teaching in the Cleveland public schools; Carl, of Greenwich; and Crystal, the wife of Fred Hines, the cashier of the Farmers Bank of Greenwich.

The family were for years members of the Methodist Protestant church, while Mr. Antrim acted as superintendent of the Sunday school most of the time for twenty-five years and was always active in the work of the church and Sunday school. Since coming to Greenwich, however, the family have attended the Methodist Episcopal church, there being no Methodist Protestant organization in this city. Mr. Antrim now gives his allegiance to the republican party, although for some years he was affiliated with the prohibition party, being deeply interested in and active in the support of the cause of temperance. He is a splendid type of the American citizen who at all times stands for that which is highest and best in the world, supporting many measures of reform and improvement that uplift humanity and work for the common weal.

WASHINGTON IRVING ADAMS.

Washington Irving Adams is one of the active and progressive agriculturists of Huron county, making his home on his farm of one hundred acres in Fairfield township. He is a native of that township, his birth having there occurred on the 7th of November, 1842. His parents were Sherwood and Delecta (Foote) Adams, the former a son of David and Betsy (Lyon) Adams and the latter a daughter of Ebenezer and Lydia (Gage) Foote. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Adams were born two children, Linden and Washington Irving.

The last named has been engaged in general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career and has resided on his present farm of one hundred acres for the past twenty-five years. As the result of his unremitting industry and capable management he has gained a gratifying measure of prosperity in his undertakings and has long been numbered among the substantial and enterprising citizens of the community.

In 1864 Mr. Adams was united in marriage to Miss Lovisa Carbine, a daughter of Horace and Clarissa Carbine, by whom he has one child, Lena, who was born in 1870. She was educated in a college at Hillsdale, Michigan, and afterward taught in a high school of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, but is now in Logansport, Indiana.

In his political views Mr. Adams is a staunch republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church, with which his wife is also identified. Having spent his entire life in this locality, he is well known and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood is an indication that his career is worthy of respect and confidence.

ANNA J. MCPHERSON.

Mrs. Anna J. McPherson, who is of Scotch-Irish descent, owns one hundred and twenty-three acres of land in Greenfield township, where she has lived for more than sixty years, being born in this township, January 17, 1824. Her parents, John and Martha (Easter) Arthur, were of Irish birth but came to this county in the days of the pioneers. They settled in Greenfield township, cleared their own farm and became substantial citizens of the land of their adoption. A more extended mention of them and of their descendants is given in the sketch of Robert Arthur, a farmer of Greenfield township.

Mrs. McPherson has spent all her life in this township. Her education was acquired in the public schools of Steuben and the practical experience that fitted her to be the wife of a farmer was obtained at home with her parents. In her young womanhood she was married August 12, 1841, to James McPherson, the son of William and Mary McPherson, natives of Ireland but numbered among the early settlers of Bronson township. James McPherson was also of Irish birth and was the first of his family to come to this country. He was a young man and came alone, but, after finding that the chances of making his way in the world were so much better here than in Ireland sent for his parents. He had learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed on coming to Ohio, and it is said that he helped to build some of the first houses in Norwalk. After obtaining employment in several other places, he went to Steuben, where he assisted in building the Congregational church. Shortly after that he abandoned his trade for the pursuit of farming, for in 1846, he had purchased a good-sized tract of land, that on which his widow lives today. It was at the time virgin soil, well covered with timber, and the work of clearing the forest was no small undertaking. The greater part of this he did himself as well as building his fine house. Many improvements have since been made, and were, in fact, instituted before Mr. McPherson's life was closed on the 22d of June, 1858, at the age of forty-four years and four months to the day. A hard-working man, his integrity of deed and purpose was recognized by his fellows, who as whigs elected him to fill the office of treasurer of the township. His religious affiliation was with the Congregational church.

Of the marriage that was solemnized in the Arthur home on the 12th of August, 1841, there were born three children: William Hamilton, living in Bronson township, was twice married, the first time to Miss Lucy A. Wheeler, who left three children, Arthur, William H. and Scott, and the second time to Miss Margaret Much, and they have two sons, Clyde and Glenn. George A., the second son, is a resident of Greenfield township. He married Miss Emma Willoughby, by whom he has had two children: Robert, deceased; and Jennie, who is the wife of Fred

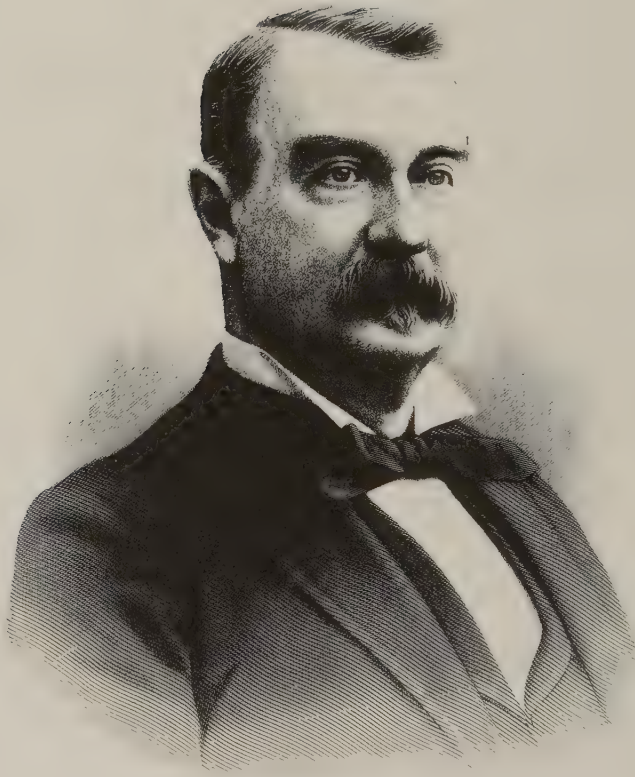
Flyn and has a daughter Helen. They live in Ashland county, Ohio. John F., the youngest son, lives at home and manages his mother's farm. He attended the public school at Steuben, from which he went to the National Normal College at Lebanon, Ohio, where he took a teacher's course. For a few years after completing his education he devoted himself to instructing others in the rudiments of the English language and other school subjects and then engaged in farming. He has been successful in agriculture and has won for himself a respected position among the citizens of Greenfield township, whom he has served to their satisfaction as justice of the peace and as town clerk and in other capacities, having held the first mentioned office through a period of twenty-three years, and the second for twenty-one years. He is a democrat in politics and a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he has held several offices. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of the Maccabees and has held almost all the offices of the tent.

During the more than half-century that Mrs. McPherson has lived upon her farm she has witnessed and participated in the many changes that have transformed the country from a sparsely inhabited tract of undeveloped field and forest, into one of the best improved portions of the state. The progress is gratifying and especially is the knowledge that her farm has kept up with the march of time and is as improved and well cultivated a tract as is included in the township of Greenfield.

MRS. ANNIE M. STENTZ.

Analization of character is perhaps the most difficult task that ever confronts the historian, so complex are the interests that enter in and so diversified are the forces which have influence upon the individual. It would seem almost impossible to point out the salient factors in the life of Mrs. Annie M. Stentz, for hers is a well rounded life in which notable business ability, broad humanitarianism, kindly spirit and liberal culture are well balanced forces. She is probably without exception the most prominent and best known woman in Huron county and has had the notable distinction of being the only woman national bank president in the United States.

A native of Ashland county, Ohio, her birth occurred in Mifflin township, March 31, 1846, her parents being Benjamin and Annie (Albert) Newcomer, both of whom were natives of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She has been a resident of Monroeville, Huron county, since 1863, and on the 4th of October, 1872. she gave her hand in marriage to Orren W. Head, a native of Paris, Oneida county, New York, born in May, 1808. His parents were Jonathan and Hepzibah (Livermore) Head, natives of Rhode Island and New Hampshire, respectively. Orren W. Head was reared to farm life and was educated in the subscription schools of the neighborhood. In 1836 he wedded Julia Crane of Marshall, Oneida county, New York, and unto them were born three sons and two daughters, but the latter are now deceased. In 1842 Mr. Head and his family became residents of Ridgfield township, Huron county, where he purchased four hundred and twenty acres of land, the greater part of which was formerly the Sours farm.



A. R. King



Annie M. Steady,

As the years passed he kept his land well improved and cultivated, bringing the fields under a high state of development so that rich crops were annually harvested. In 1857 he erected what is now known as the Davis block in Monroeville, where he conducted a banking business for a number of years, the enterprise being first conducted as the Perkins & Head Exchange Bank. Following the death of the senior partner it became known as the O. W. Head Exchange Bank and was so maintained until 1863, when Mr. Head sold out to S. V. Harkness. He always conducted a private banking business and through his careful and wise management accumulated a goodly fortune, while the integrity of his business methods won him the high regard of all. One of the founders of the Monroeville National Bank, he served as its president from the time of its inception until his death, which occurred October 2, 1882. Mr. Head was honored for his loyalty to his friends, for his public-spirited devotion to the general good and his support of all projects for the intellectual and moral uplift of the community. He assisted more men in their hour of need to secure homes than any other one citizen in the county, and the spirit of friendliness thus manifested won for him an almost limitless circle of friends.

It was upon the death of Mr. Head that his widow, now Mrs. Stentz, gave evidence of her superior business qualifications. Assuming the management of the estate she soon brought order out of chaos in a manner that at once stamped her as one of the most capable of modern business women. She received a goodly inheritance from her husband and, possessing a fondness for business management, controlled her affairs with rare skill and discrimination. One of her favorite investments was the stock of the First National Bank of Monroeville, and in the course of time she and Henry P. Stentz became the largest stockholders. Their marriage, which occurred April 15, 1901, brought about a transfusion of interests which gave them control of the corporation.

Henry P. Stentz, up to the time of his death the president of the First National Bank, was prominent in the array of leading financiers and capitalists of Monroeville and Ohio. He was always a builder and not a wrecker of fortunes, his work being along constructive lines and of a character that contributed to general success as well as to individual prosperity. There was no name more honored or respected throughout Huron county than that of Henry P. Stentz, who was richly endowed with all those qualities which constituted good citizenship and honorable manhood. He was born in Middletown, Pennsylvania, February 26, 1838, and was descended from German ancestry, from whom he inherited his characteristic energy, good judgment and other business qualities that made him the successful financier he proved himself to be. His parents were Peter and Catherine (Keller) Stentz, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Huron county, Ohio, in 1840. After a brief period they established their home in Plymouth, Richmond county, but much of the residue of their days was passed at Galion, Crawford county, to which place they removed in 1853.

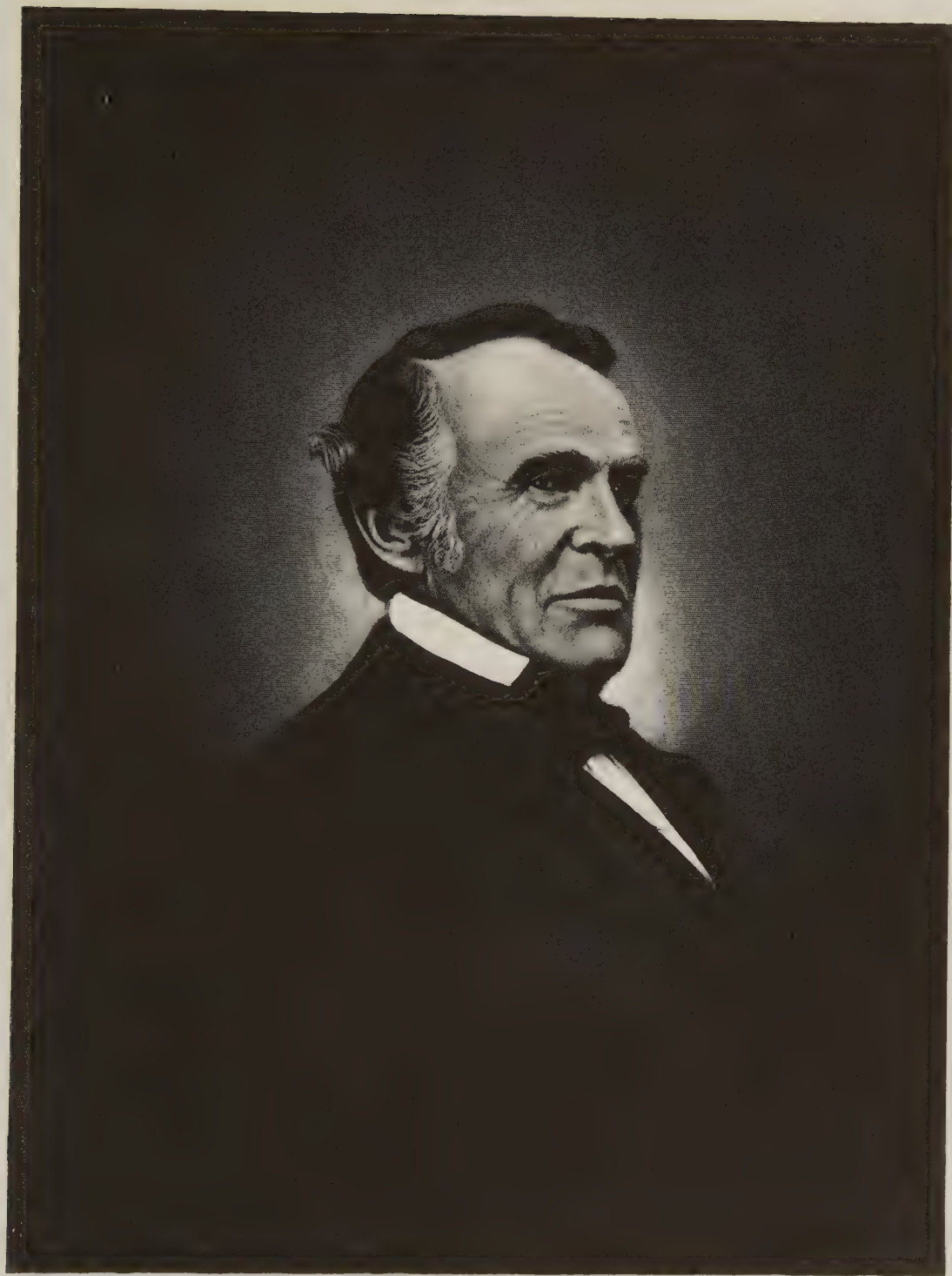
Henry P. Stentz acquired his education in the Union schools of Plymouth and crossed the threshold of business life as an employe of A. Atwood, a merchant and banker of that place. He gave unfaltering loyalty to his employer and manifested unremitting diligence in the discharge of the duties that devolved upon him. His remuneration at the outset was only eight dollars per month,

but he gradually worked his way upward, winning the confidence and good will of his employer by his diligence, enterprise and trustworthiness. He remained with Mr. Atwood until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he launched out upon an independent business venture, speculating in several articles of merchandise, including cotton, hemp, sugar and molasses. This caused him to travel largely in the south and while he did not meet with very substantial success in the undertaking, owing doubtless to the condition of the markets in those feverish times, he yet gained broad experience that proved an excellent stock in trade for future business development.

Following the close of the war Mr. Stentz retired from the field of speculation and in 1866 accepted a cashiership in the Exchange Bank of Monroeville as successor to S. V. Harkness. In 1879 this bank was organized as the First National Bank of Monroeville, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, Mr. Stentz continuing as cashier until 1889, when he was promoted to the presidency. He also organized the First National Bank of Galion, Ohio, one of the first institutions of the kind established under the new regime and he was subsequently one of the promoters and organizers of the National Bank of Plymouth. He manifested the keenest discernment in the solution of intricate financial problems and in connection with his banking interests he developed a safe and conservative business policy which made him among the strongest financial enterprises of this part of the state. Realizing that realty is one of the safest of all investments, he made judicious purchases of property, particularly fine farming land in the vicinity of Monroeville, and ultimately became the owner of one thousand and five acres.

Mr. Stentz never selfishly hoarded his wealth but was a generous contributor to many institutions and movements which were based upon humanitarian principles. Although he did not hold membership with any religious denomination, he attended and generously supported the Presbyterian church at Monroeville. His record furnishes a notable example of what may be accomplished by a conservative, enterprising business man. Assuming the responsibilities of a bank cashiership when twenty-eight years of age, through his close application to every duty and his thorough understanding of the business in principle and detail he widely promoted its growth and extended its business connections. Following methods which neither sought nor required disguise, he furnished an example of honorable endeavor that is indeed well worthy of emulation. Mr. Stentz not only succeeded in elevating the Monroeville Exchange Bank to the highest point of excellence attained by any institution of the kind in Huron county, but in order that its interests might be extended he succeeded in having it reorganized as a national bank and under his capable control it was made to rank with the soundest and best managed banks of northern Ohio.

The Monroeville Weekly Spectator, during the wild financial panic that occurred in the summer of 1893, said: "During a commercial crisis like that through which we are now passing, when doubt and distrust are apparent on every hand, there is sweet consolation in the thought that the solvency of our own home bank is unquestioned. While hundreds of similar institutions throughout the length and breadth of the land are forced into suspension or failure, because of the existing lack of confidence, the First National Bank of Monroeville stands



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and will stand a monument of integrity, judgment and fidelity to the efficient management it has ever enjoyed and which today is identical with that under which it began its career over twenty-seven years ago. The present crisis finds it in better condition than ever before to cope with panical problems and it will speedily and satisfactorily solve all that are presented provided they legitimately come within the sphere of its action. Mr. Stentz has been the moving spirit, the power behind the throne, the manager from the organization to the present time, and to his efforts are chiefly attributable the long continued prosperity and substantial growth that have characterized the bank's career and the enviable reputation, standing and confidence which it now enjoys."

The death of Mr. Stentz occurred in Monroeville, June 9, 1903, after an illness of six weeks. He had been called one of nature's noblemen and was a man honored by young and old, rich and poor. One of the local papers said of him: "Mr. Stentz never aspired to official honors, but when in 1901 Governor Nash honored him with the appointment of trustee of the State Hospital at Toledo he accepted. As an officer he was painstaking, prompt and accurate in duty, accommodating to those for whom he transacted business, and urbane to all with whom he had to deal. His business judgment was sought and relied upon. He was always cautious in advancing an opinion, all the consequences of which he could not forecast with reasonable certainty. There were traits of character in H. P. Stentz that should be mentioned not only to his individual credit but to the honor of mankind. He was always courteous and full of genial qualities which attracted others to him, and which will make his loss sorely felt." Without making professions of exalted goodness, he was just to his enemies, charitable to his associates and full of sympathy and devotion to his friends. His funeral was one of the largest ever held in Monroeville, many coming from distant points to pay the last tribute of honor and respect to one whom they had long known and honored, while the entire town regretted his loss as a personal bereavement, so closely was he associated with the life and interests of the community.

Following the death of her husband Mrs. Stentz took up the burden of the business affairs. The control of the bank stock passed to her and she was immediately made president of the institution. This was a rare distinction, as she was the only lady president of a national bank in the United States. Her advent was heralded by all financial and daily papers over the country. She insisted on conducting the business in a thorough, businesslike manner and soon found favor with patrons and stockholders of the bank alike. The first National under her control became recognized as a safe, sound and prosperous concern. Not contented with her interests in that direction, Mrs. Stentz soon turned her attention to traction interests and now owns and controls the Sandusky, Norwalk & Mansfield electric line between Norwalk and Shelby, Ohio. This is one of her best investments and she is the vice president and a director of the company. She also has many other important business interests which engage her wise sagacity and untiring enterprise. She is the vice president of the Hull-Stentz Realty Company, of Toledo, and numerous other concerns and corporations. She is entirely fearless in all of her business operations, entering

upon large deals with intrepidity and confidence. Her insight is most keen, her judgment seldom if ever at fault.

Notwithstanding all this Mrs. Stentz is essentially feminine and domestic in her taste, spending a great deal of her time in her beautiful country home on the Monroeville road between Norwalk and Monroeville. Her charities are many and she contributes to churches and benevolent organizations most generously, yet she never gives with ostentation or display. She has undoubtedly given as much for such causes as any other person in the county. One of her gifts, for which she will never cease to be remembered, was that of a handsome monument erected in honor of the soldiers and sailors of Ridgefield. In 1901 Rev. Charles S. Aves started a movement for raising a fund for the purpose, his plans being to take up a collection each Memorial day until a sufficient amount was secured, but in two years only eighty-seven dollars had been received. Mrs. Annie M. Stentz afterward announced her determination to erect the monument to perpetuate the memory of the brave boys in blue. The contract was awarded, the work was executed and on the 29th of September, 1904, she unveiled the monument and presented it as a gift to the city. It was made a gala day in the history of Monroeville. On that occasion there was witnessed the largest procession ever known in the town and with appropriate music and addresses the occasion was made one never to be forgotten by any who were present. Mrs. Stentz is ever ready to extend a helping hand to the poor and needy and yet she does not believe in that indiscriminate giving which fosters vagrancy or idleness. Her charities are broad and practical, and her influence on the business life of the community has been essentially along constructive lines. Recognized as the equal in ability of the men who are most prominent in the commercial and financial circles of Huron county, she is at the same time lacking in none of those social graces which make her a most charming hostess and valued companion in social functions.

FRANCIS J. ELMLINGER.

Francis J. Elmlinger, now deceased, was for many years numbered among the prominent and successful agriculturists of Sherman township, there owning a well improved and valuable farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres at the time of his demise. He was born in Baden, Germany, his parents being Conrad and Mary Elmlinger, by whom he was brought to the United States when a little lad of seven years. They first took up their abode in Huron county, Ohio, but subsequently removed to Paulding county, this state, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

On attaining man's estate Francis J. Elmlinger was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Weidinger, a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Weidinger, who was a little maiden of eight years when she accompanied her parents on their emigration to the new world. The children born of this union are as follows: Joseph J., who resides on the home farm with his mother and sisters; John F., who wedded Miss Monica Brobst and makes his home in Sherman township; Peter C., living at Norwalk, Ohio, who married Miss Catherine Schell; Mary C., who is at

home; Rosa E., the wife of Aloys Miller, of Sherman township; and Anna D., who is likewise at home.

Francis J. Elmlinger devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and was widely recognized as a most substantial, enterprising and progressive citizen of Sherman township. His political allegiance was unfalteringly given to the democratic party and he capably served in the position of road supervisor for several years. He was a Catholic in religious belief and acted as a councilman in St. Sebastian's church. Honorable in business, loyal in citizenship, charitable in thought, kindly in action, true to every trust confided to his care, his life was the highest type of Christian manhood.

Since the death of their father Joseph J. and John F. Elmlinger have operated the old homestead farm in partnership, conducting their interests under the name of Elmlinger Brothers. The place comprises one hundred and seventy-two acres of rich and arable land in Sherman township and in its cultivation the brothers are meeting with well merited and gratifying success, being men of energy, enterprise and good business ability. Joseph J. Elmlinger is a stockholder in the Sherman Oil & Gas Company, which is drilling for oil in Sherman township at the present time. The officers of the company are as follows: J. R. Bischoff, president; Daniel Heyman, vice president; J. P. Heyman, treasurer; and Joseph J. Elmlinger, secretary. Henry Scheid, L. P. Heyman and A. F. Heyman are the directors of the concern. Joseph J. Elmlinger exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy and has acted as road supervisor, while at the present time he is serving as clerk of Sherman township. He is a faithful communicant of the Catholic church and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Columbus at Monroeville.

John F. Elmlinger lives just across the road from the old homestead farm but is making preparations to erect a new residence on the ground adjoining the home of his mother, brother and sisters. The members of the family are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community and are numbered among the representative, respected and leading residents of Sherman township.

ELZIE G. PALMER.

A well improved farm of eighty-five acres, situated in Fairfield township, is the home of Elzie G. Palmer, who has followed agriculture as a life work. His birth occurred in New Haven township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 20th of June, 1867, his parents being Milton and Isadore (Burlingham) Palmer, who were also natives of this county, the father having been born in New Haven township in 1842, while the mother's birth occurred in Norwich township. The Palmer family is of English extraction. The paternal grandparents of Elzie G. Palmer were Meigs and Betsy (Curtis) Palmer, while his maternal grandparents were Earl and Rosetta (Carpenter) Burlingham.

Elzie G. Palmer obtained his education in the district schools and was reared in the usual manner of farm lads, assisting his father from the time of early spring planting until the crops were harvested in the late autumn. As stated above, he

has given his attention to the work of general farming throughout his entire business career, and for the past four years he has resided on his farm of eighty-five acres in Fairfield township. He annually harvests rich crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields, cultivating the land according to the modern methods of farming.

On the 23d of July, 1890, Mr. Palmer was joined in wedlock to Miss Emma Russell, a daughter of John and Mary (Lewis) Russell, of Ripley township, this county. Their union has been blessed with seven children, namely: Florence; Ross; Elva; Carl; Esther and Isadore, twins; and Clarence. Mr. Palmer gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party, being convinced that its principles are most conducive to good government. His entire life has been passed in this county and his fellow townsmen know him as a straightforward, reliable and progressive citizen, who well merits the esteem that is uniformly accorded him.

FRANK J. GIES.

Not all who take up the work of the farm meet with success. There are certain indispensable elements, including industry, perseverance and good judgment, to tell the individual when is the best time of planting and what are the best methods of caring for the crops. Mr. Gies seems to possess all the essential elements of success in agricultural lines, for he is now one of the substantial and prosperous farmer of Peru township. A glance at his place at once indicates to the passerby that his methods are practical and progressive. His farm, comprising one hundred and thirty acres, presents a most attractive appearance, for the land is under a high state of cultivation and gives promise of golden harvests in the autumn.

He was born in Bronson township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 25th of October, 1872, his parents being Michael and Blondina (Remley) Gies. The paternal grandfather, who was a native of Germany, made the voyage to this country about 1822 and became one of the early settlers of Bronson township, this county. The log house which he here erected was the birthplace of his son Michael, who remained a resident of Huron county throughout his entire life. The latter was an agriculturist by occupation, in which line of activity he won success by reason of his untiring industry and capable management. He was a valued and prominent member of the Catholic church, to which he contributed liberally of his time and means and in the faith of which he passed away in 1905. His wife, whose birth occurred in Germany in 1840, accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Remley, on their emigration to the United States in 1848, the family home being established in Bronson township, this county. She still survives and is well known and highly esteemed throughout the entire community. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children, namely: August, who is now a resident of Crawford county, Ohio; Ferdinand, living in Bronson township; Amelia, who is the wife of Emil Schnurr and makes her home in Bronson township; Lawrence, at home; Frank J., of this review; William, likewise a resident of Bronson township; and Leo, who is at home.

Frank J. Gies attended the district and German schools in the acquirement of an education and continued a resident of Bronson township until 1891. He worked for Mr. Remley for about three years, on the expiration of which period he went to Norwalk and was there in the employ of John Gardner for about nine years. Subsequently he purchased his present farm of one hundred and thirty acres in Peru township from Ed Lawrence and has here since carried on his agricultural interests with excellent results. He has remodeled the house and barn, also erected a number of outbuildings and altogether has a well improved and model farming property.

On the 15th of February, 1900, Mr. Gies was united in marriage to Miss Rose Reichert, a native of Germany and a daughter of Conrad and Helen Reichert. When a maiden of sixteen years she crossed the Atlantic to the United States in company with some friends but her parents never left the fatherland. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gies have been born three children: Oscar, whose birth occurred February 20, 1903; Walter, whose natal day was September 6, 1905; and Leander, who was born on the 6th of April, 1909.

Mr. Gies is a faithful communicant of the Catholic church. In 1908, in company with his wife, he made a trip to Europe and visited Germany, Switzerland and Italy, spending about nine weeks abroad. Having lived in Huron county throughout his entire life, he is well known within its borders and the many excellent traits of his character have brought to him the warm friendship of those with whom he has been associated.

REV. P. J. QUINN.

Rev. P. J. Quinn, who since the 4th of October, 1903, has been in charge of the parish of St. Mary's church in Norwalk, was born in Niles, Ohio, on the 16th of February, 1874. His father, Charles Quinn, was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and came to the United States in the late '60s, at which time he settled in Ohio, remaining a resident here until his death on the 14th of December, 1907. His widow, who bore the name of Bridget Gallagher, is also a native of Ireland and is still living, being now a resident of Niles, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Quinn became the parents of fourteen children, six sons and eight daughters.

In the schools of his native town P. J. Quinn acquired his early education and afterward had the benefit of instruction at Notre Dame University for three and a half years. He also spent a year and a half at St. Charles College in Maryland and pursued a theological course at St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland. He was then ordained to the priesthood on the 9th of June, 1900, in Cleveland and his first two years of pastoral work were spent as assistant at St. Agnes' church in that city. Later, he was given charge of the Catholic church in Van Wert, Ohio, where he remained for one year and three months as guardian over the spiritual interests of St. Mary's church and on the 4th of October, 1903, he came to Norwalk to take charge of St. Mary's church at this place. He has been located here for about six years and is doing excellent work for the cause of Catholicism. The interests of the church are well organized and he has the hearty co-

operation of its members. He is very zealous in the work and is, moreover, a man of scholarly attainments, capable of holding the interest of his auditors when he addresses them upon religious themes. Father Quinn has three sisters who are members of religious bodies, Sadie and Ellen being connected with the Sisters of the Humility of Mary in the diocese of Cleveland, while Catherine is associated with the Sisters of St. Joseph in Erie, Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM H. PIERCE.

William H. Pierce, a well known and successful merchant of Wakeman, was born at that place on the 19th of August, 1840, a son of Lemuel B. and Eunice (Burr) Pierce. In 1815, Lemuel B. Pierce accompanied his parents Mr. and Mrs. Amile P. Pierce, on their removal from Connecticut to Huron county, Ohio. They made the journey by wagon, bringing all their earthly possessions with them. The log cabin which they erected was the third one built in Wakeman township and as this part of the state was still covered with timber, they had to clear the land before it could be utilized for farming purposes. As the years passed, Lemuel B. Pierce won success in his agricultural interests, owing to his untiring and well directed labor, and eventually became an extensive landowner. He also built and operated one of the first sawmills in Wakeman and was highly esteemed throughout the community as one of its worthy pioneer settlers whose efforts proved an important factor in the work of early development. He was a man of powerful physique and when in his prime could stand with his feet in a half bushel measure and shoulder five bushels of wheat, weighing three hundred pounds. Public-spirited and progressive, his aid and co-operation could always be counted upon to further any movement or measure instituted to promote the general welfare and at the polls, he gave his support to the candidates whom he believed would best conserve the public weal, but never sought office as a reward for his party fealty. His demise occurred in September, 1875, while his wife was called to her final rest in 1866, their remains being interred in the Wakeman cemetery. Their family numbered five children, namely: Amelia, who died when about seven years of age; Elbert B., who is now deceased; William H., of this review; Julia J., the widow of Theodore V. Bunce; and Frank L., who has also passed away.

William H. Pierce was reared under the parental roof and early in life aided his father in the arduous labor incident to the development of a frontier farm. He obtained his preliminary education in the public schools of Wakeman and afterward attended Oberlin University for several terms. During the winter of 1860-61, he taught school in Wakeman township and in September, 1861, enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company H, Forty-first Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In 1862, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to Company B of the same regiment, commanding the company for two years. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and saw much arduous service, participating in many hotly contested engagements. In the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, Mr. Pierce was under fire for one hundred days, but in spite of this and many other hazardous experiences,

he escaped injury and imprisonment and had been in the service for more than three years before suffering from even a day's illness. He was mustered out on the 31st of January, 1865, about six months after the expiration of his three years' term of enlistment, and returned home with a military record of which he had every reason to be proud. Soon afterward, he became identified with the mercantile interests of Wakeman as a member of the firm of Harris, Pierce & Baldwin, handling a general line of merchandise and farm implements. In 1880, he sold his interest to his partners and purchased a farm in Richland county, being there engaged in agricultural pursuits for about six years. Returning to Wakeman on the expiration of that period, he once more became connected with mercantile pursuits and had been continuously connected with that line of activity to the present time, conducting his enterprise under the firm name of W. H. Pierce & Sons. In addition to carrying a fine line of groceries, boots and shoes and school supplies, they make a specialty of handling and shipping eggs and are generally conceded to be the most extensive dealers in eggs in the entire county. Mr. Pierce is a man of resourceful business ability, whose capably directed labors and keen discernment constitute the basis of the splendid success which has attended his effort. The neat and tasteful arrangement of his store, combined with the reasonable prices and earnest desire to please his patrons have secured for him a large and very gratifying trade.

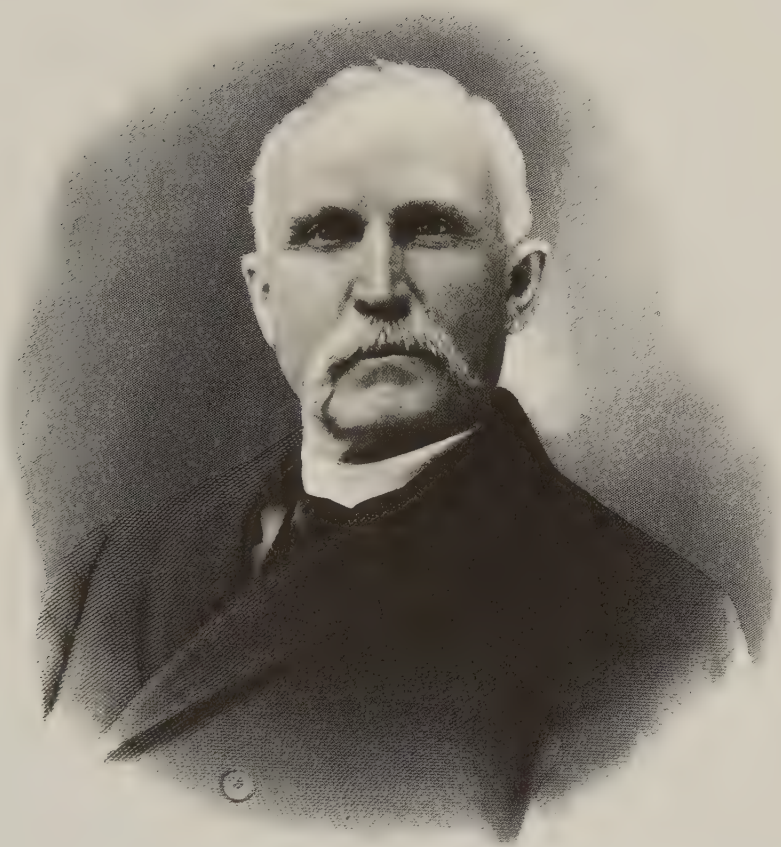
On the 18th of April, 1864, while at home on a recruiting mission, Mr. Pierce was united in marriage to Miss Docia A. Waugh, a daughter of Lansing and Docia (Minor) Waugh, of Wakeman township. Unto them were born five children, the record of whom is as follows: Clarence H., who is associated with his father in business, was married on the 9th of February, 1886, to Miss Eva Brandt, a daughter of W. Shannon and Elizabeth (Cassell) Brandt, of Richland county. They now have four daughters: Flora A., Bessie B., Mabel B. and Docia E. Arthur M. Pierce, who is associated in business with his father and brother, celebrated his marriage on the 25th of December, 1890, the lady of his choice being Miss Flora Marshall, a daughter of William H. and Rebecca (Will) Marshall, of Richland county. By this union there are three children: Lester, Florence and William, Gilbert Pierce, son of William H. Pierce, passed away when but two years of age. Ada M. was called to her final rest at the age of twenty-five years, and Anna died in infancy. In 1909, Mr. Pierce was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 14th of January of that year, her demise being the occasion of deep and sincere regret to all who knew her.

Though his business interests make extensive demands upon his time and energies, Mr. Pierce still finds opportunity for active co-operation in matters pertaining to the public welfare and is an influential factor in the local ranks of the republican party. He is a member of the republican county committee and almost every year attends the county, district and state conventions as a delegate. He polled Wakeman township for twelve consecutive years, his service in this connection being remarkable for its accuracy. He was recognized as the most expert poller of voters in Huron county, for in most instances it was found that his polls were absolutely correct and in perfect accord with the results shown on election day. For a number of years prior to 1880, which year witnessed his removal to Richland county, he served as postmaster at Wakeman and after re-

turning to this town, he was again appointed postmaster in 1890, capably discharging the duties of the office for four years. He has also acted as constable of Wakeman township and was likewise township trustee and township clerk for a number of years. From the time that he returned from the army until within the past few years, his fellow townsmen kept him almost continuously in public office—a fact which speaks in unmistakable terms of his personal popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him. His sons, emulating the splendid record of their father in private and public life, have become widely recognized as substantial and progressive citizens and take a helpful interest in matters of public concern. Clarence H. Pierce now serving as treasurer of Wakeman township. A valued representative of the Masonic fraternity here, William H. Pierce belongs to Gibson Lodge, No. 301, F. & A. M., in which he has filled most of the offices. He is also a member of Wilson Todd Post, No. 559, G. A. R., in which he has filled all of the offices and for the past twelve years, has been quartermaster of the post. He has frequently been a delegate to the state encampments, often attends the national encampments and for the past forty years, has been a regular attendant at the annual reunions of the Forty-first Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He and his family are prominent members of the Congregational church and are active workers in both church and Sunday school. Mr. Pierce having frequently served as an officer on the different church boards. Such in brief is the life history of one of Huron county's most widely known and highly respected citizens. In whatever relation of life we find him—in the government service, in political circles, in business or in social relations—he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman, whose worth well merits the high regard which is uniformly given him.

WILLIAM A. KNAPP.

One of the influential business men of Greenwich township, Huron county, is William A. Knapp, a farmer, stockman and banker. He was born in Maranac, Connecticut, January 10, 1841, and is the son of William A. and Harriet (Marshall) Knapp, both of whom were natives of Westchester county, New York. They grew up and were married there. The second year after their union they removed to Connecticut, where Mr. Knapp assumed the management of the farm of Judge I. Roosevelt, the grandfather of ex-President Theodore Roosevelt, who though a resident of New York had large farming interests in the adjoining state. In 1846 Mr. Knapp decided to bring his family to Ohio, and made the trip by the circuitous route of the Erie canal to Buffalo and by lake vessel from Buffalo to Huron, Ohio, which they reached October 3, 1846. The family located in Fitchville township, where Mr. Knapp purchased fifty acres of good land from his father Sylvanus Knapp, who had secured the land in 1836 as a part of the Firelands reservation, but had never become a resident of Ohio. The entire fifty acres were heavily covered with timber, and the winter of 1846-47 was spent in clearing two acres and in building a frame house for his family, which was one of the first frame buildings erected in that township. In the spring



W. A. Knapp

of 1847 the two acres he had cleared Mr. Knapp planted in corn, employing a method of doing this that was crude in the extreme. With his ax he would first make a hole in the ground, drop in the grains of corn, and then with his foot brush back the dirt to cover the hole. The work of clearing went on rapidly, and as he saw opportunity Mr. Knapp bought large tracts of land until he owned two hundred and forty acres. He pursued general farming and also engaged in stock buying and shipping, finding a market for his stock in Buffalo. In 1881 he sold his farm and removed to Greenwich, where he became active in the organization of the Greenwich Banking Company, the first bank in the village. He was elected its first president and held the position until his death, July 17, 1888. He was a man of means, who took a deep interest in public matters, although he never participated in politics with a view to self-advancement. Originally he was a whig, but of later years espoused the republican cause and was always to be seen at the polls at election time.. He had for a number of years been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and when he died was mourned as a man of sterling traits of character. His wife, who possessed many virtues and was beloved by all who knew her, survived him a little over a year, her death occurring on the 10th of September, 1889, and she was buried by his side in the cemetery at Fitchville.

William A. Knapp, the subject of this sketch, was reared under the parental roof and received his education in the district schools of the county, but because of the need of his services on the farm did not continue the period of his training beyond his sixteenth year. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served for four months with the Army of the Potomac. At the end of his term of enlistment he entered the government telegraph service under Dennis Doren, superintendent of construction with the Army of the Potomac. During the two years he was engaged in this work he was rapidly promoted and was given the position of foreman for meritorious service. In the fall of 1867, when the telegraph lines south of the Mason and Dixon's line were returned to the control of the original owners, Mr. Knapp left the employ of the government, entering that of the Western Union Telegraph Company. He remained with this corporation for one year, in that time assisting in the building of the cable connection between Pirate's Cove, on the northern line of Nova Scotia, to the northern line of New Brunswick. Returning home at the expiration of a year, he engaged with his father in farming and stock shipping, a partnership that continued until the older man removed to Greenwich village, after which Mr. Knapp continued the business alone. In 1895 he removed to Greenwich, where in addition to his farming and stock business he has identified himself with the village life and work. He was made president of the Farmers' Banking Company and is a stockholder in the First National Bank of New London and in the Capital Trust Company of Columbus. In 1900 he served as land appraiser for Fitchville township and has in other ways evinced his interest in public matters. In politics he is a republican and is frequently a representative of his party in county, district and state conventions.

On the 27th of March, 1879, Mr. Knapp was married to Miss Philena Kirkpatrick, a daughter of William and Charlotte (Codon), the former a farmer of

Fitchville township. To Mr. and Mrs. Knapp have been born two sons, Jay D., who was formerly assistant cashier of the Greenwich Banking Company, but on account of ill health has removed to California; and Harley B., who is assistant cashier of the Farmers Banking Company, of which his father is president. Mrs. Knapp died July 31, 1892, mourned by those who knew her and had been the recipients of her many acts of thoughtfulness and kindness.

Mr. Knapp and his family affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church and support all Christian and charitable work. He belongs to Floral Lodge, No. 260, F. & A. M., in which he takes an active part. A man of means, his landholdings amount to three hundred and ten acres besides his fine home in Greenwich. He is distinguished for his public spirit and is a strong advocate of good government and improvements, being of the opinion that by such things may the progress of a community be gauged.

BYRON EMORY JENNINGS.

Byron Emory Jennings, who is now living practically retired in North Fairfield, where he owns a tract of ten acres of land, was formerly actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of this county. His birth occurred in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 26th of October, 1853, his parents being Ezra S. and Harriet (Godden) Jennings, who were natives of Connecticut and New York respectively. The father was born on the 6th of August, 1828, while the mother's birth occurred October 13, 1829.

Byron Emory Jennings has always devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits, in which he has met with excellent success, annually harvesting good crops as the result of his practical and progressive methods in the cultivation of the soil. He has now disposed of his farm, however, and is living practically retired on a tract of ten acres in North Fairfield.

On the 24th of January, 1877, Mr. Jennings was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Cowpe, whose birth occurred in England on the 15th of June, 1858, her parents being John and Ellen (Frith) Cowpe, also natives of that country. The latter, who was born March 24, 1827, gave her hand in marriage to John Cowpe on the 23d of March, 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Cowpe made the ocean voyage to the United States when their daughter Jennie was but nine months old and in 1859, took up their abode at Olena, Huron county, Ohio. The father was a brickmaker by trade and followed that pursuit until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in defense of the Union as a member of Company E, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was killed at the battle of Peach Tree Creek on the 20th of July, 1864, thus laying down his life on the altar of his adopted country. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: John Sherman, Jennie and Mary Ann. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings had four children, namely: Otto, born October 3, 1878, who wedded Miss Grace Kinger on the 30th of June, 1906, and resides in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Clair Elbert, whose birth occurred March 13, 1886, and who is now pursuing a course in mechanical engineering at the Ohio State

University; Lee, born May 19, 1891, who is at home; and Harold, born October 5, 1897, who passed away on the 3d of January, 1898.

Mr. Jennings is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, in the work of which he takes an active and helpful interest. He is well known and highly esteemed throughout the county in which he has made his home from his birth to the present time, his upright and honorable life commanding the respect and admiration of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

ELIAS BEACH MITCHELL.

Elias Beach Mitchell, a retired agriculturist residing in North Fairfield, was born in Greenfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 30th of December, 1839. The paternal grandfather, James Mitchell, who was of Scotch Irish descent, was born in New Jersey, about 1745. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Lorena Sutton, was of Holland Dutch lineage. Their children were seven in number, namely: William N., Betsy, Sarah, Polly, Hezekiah, Moses and James. William N. Mitchell, the father of our subject, whose birth occurred in Montgomery county, New York, on the 1st of January, 1799, came to Greenwich township, Huron county, Ohio, in 1821, making the journey with his father. As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life, he chose Miss Charisy Beach, who was born in Montgomery county, New York, in October, 1812, a daughter of Elias and Amanda (Herrick) Beach. Her parents were natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut respectively, and the father served as a soldier in the War of 1812. Mrs. Mitchell was the eldest in a family of eleven children, her brothers and sisters being as follows: Miles, T., Milton, Erastus, Marshall, Thomas, Jane, Sarah, Emily, Flora and Henrietta. About 1824, the Beach family established their home in Ashtabula county, Ohio, and about 1830, they came to Huron county, this state. Unto William N. and Charisy (Beach) Mitchell, were born two children: Philander; and Elias Beach, of this review.

The last named obtained his education in the common schools of his home neighborhood and after putting aside his text-books, became identified with general agricultural pursuits, in which he was successfully engaged throughout his active business career. At the present time, however, he is living retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil, having left the farm and removed to North Fairfield in the spring of 1909. He still retains possession of his farm, which is a rich and productive tract of land of sixty-four acres in Fairfield township. He is now a member of the board of directors of the Huron County Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, of which he formerly served as vice-president.

On the 4th of November, 1862, Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Place, whose birth occurred in New York city on the 26th of November, 1843, her parents being Thomas and Dora (Barker) Place, whom she accompanied on their removal to Huron county, Ohio, in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Place had a family of five children, namely: George, Lorenzo, Walter, Sarah and Cornelia. Unto Elias B. and Cornelia (Place) Mitchell, were born the following children: Fremont P., whose birth occurred November 5, 1866, and who wedded Miss Kate

Ryerson, of Greenfield township, Huron county; Donald W.; Philip; and Cornelia. Subsequent to the death of his first wife Mr. Mitchell was again married, in 1886, his second union being with Mrs. Martha J. Sherman, a widow, who was born in February, 1843. Her parents were Jonathan and Eliza (Munsel) Collinwood.

Mr. Mitchell is a prominent and valued member of the Baptist church, in which he has served as trustee for about nineteen years. He has always made his home in this county, and the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time, is an indication that his life has at all times been honorable and upright—worthy of the high esteem in which he is uniformly held.

DOOR TWADDLE.

Door Twaddle, a well-to-do farmer of Clarksfield township, Huron county, Ohio, was born in this township, March 28, 1852, the son of John J. and Julia A. (Palmer) Twaddle. The father was a son of Alexander Twaddle, and was born in the southwestern part of Pennsylvania, where the family lived from 1823 to 1836, and engaged in farming. John J. Twaddle, and his brother Alexander came to Clarksfield township in 1835, where the former was married to Miss Julia A. Palmer, who had come to Ohio with her parents from Westchester county, New York. After their marriage the young couple lived near Norwalk, Ohio, where John J. Twaddle worked for Isaac Underhill, a pioneer resident of that section. During the twelve years in his employ, Mr. Twaddle saved up sufficient money to purchase a farm in Clarksfield township, which was his home until his death, which occurred December 28, 1885. His widow survived him until November 8, 1889, when she was buried by his side in Clarksfield cemetery. Of the children that were born to Mr. and Mrs. Twaddle, Frank died in infancy; Ella married J. T. King, and is now a widow living in Wakeman village; Door is the subject of this sketch; Charlotte married Eugene Fox and lives on the old homestead in Clarksfield township; Leroy and Lilly A., were twins. The former of the two died December 14, 1897, but the other married J. L. Judd and lives in Marshall county, Kansas.

Door Twaddle was educated in the schools of Clarksfield and spent his youth on his father's farm, assisting in every way he could with the work that went on there. At the age of sixteen, he went to Michigan to purchase some land and while there worked at various pursuits. At the age of nineteen, he returned home and began learning the cheese manufacturing business, entering the factory of Parker, Morgan & Hovey. He worked for them for four years and then was appointed night superintendent of the factory, subsequently, being put in full charge of the establishment. Some years later, he became a partner in another cheese factory, located in Clarksfield, which business he conducted for seven years. He next entered the firm of J. C. Ransom & Company, where he gained a reputation as a successful cheese separator. In 1882, Mr. Twaddle gave up his interests in the cheese factory and took up farming, to which he has devoted all

his attention since. He has a tract of two hundred and six acres, all fine land and under a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. Twaddle married Miss Celia Rowland, the daughter of Daniel and Harriet (Chaffee) Rowland, a pioneer family of this county. They came here from New York state in 1818 and became very prominent in the development of the resources of the township. To Mr. and Mrs. Twaddle have been born three children. Wanda, the only daughter, married Elmer P. Finch, of Wilmington. William E. was married on the 17th of June, 1903, to Miss Edna Spurrier, the daughter of Royal and Rheta (Stiles) Spurrier. Jay C., the youngest, was married May 9, 1903, to Miss Bertha Pearsall, the daughter of James and Julia (Scott) Pearsall. Both sons are excellent young men, well educated and thoroughly equipped for the affairs of life. They assist their father in the management of his large acreage and are up-to-date in the best manner of cultivating the soil.

Mr. Twaddle is a democrat and is deeply interested in public affairs, though not active in his party. He has, however, on many occasions served the people well as township trustee, as road supervisor and as a member of the school board. He is a member of the Gibson lodge, No. 301, F. & A. M., of Wakeman and also of the chapter. The New London lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows as well numbers him upon its roll call. In the meetings of his lodges and in the general affairs of life, he has proved to be a man of sound principles and strong personality. He is progressive and well informed and is accounted one of the prosperous farmers of Clarksfield township.

F. P. STONE.

F. P. Stone, a well known and enterprising agriculturist residing on his farm of thirty acres in Fitchville township, was born in Lorain county, Ohio, on the 9th of October, 1849, his parents being Ezra and Isabelle (Baldwin) Stone, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Jefferson county, New York. In his boyhood days, Ezra Stone was brought to Lorain county, this state, by his father, Josiah Stone, who there purchased a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres. Ezra Stone successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and subsequent to the death of his father, he came into possession of the latter's farm, thereon spending his remaining days. Eighty-five acres of the original farm of one hundred and fifteen acres is still in possession of the family, now belonging to Mrs. Olivia Mull and Joseph P. Stone, a sister and brother of our subject. The father gave his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy. In the year 1846, he wedded Miss Isabell Baldwin and their union was blessed with six children, two of whom died in infancy. F. P., of this review; Orlando G., whose birth occurred in 1853; Mrs. Olivia Mull; and Joseph P. With the exception of the first named, all are residents of Lorain county. The father, who was born June 7, 1824, died February 15, 1880, and the mother, whose birth occurred April 11, 1825, passed away May 19, 1902.

F. P. Stone remained under the parental roof until after he had attained his majority, working out by the month as a farm hand. When twenty-three years

of age, he was united in marriage to Miss Julia L. Clark, a daughter of Jewett and Adeline Clark, of Lorain county. For fourteen years after his marriage, he followed his trade as a carpenter and joiner and then turned his attention to the work of farming, which has since claimed his time and energies. In 1898, he bought his present place of thirty acres in Fitchville township, Huron county, and annually gathers good harvests as a reward of the intelligence which he displays in the planting and cultivation of his crops.

Mr. and Mrs. Stone have three children: Roy E., who was born in 1874 and completed a course in the Oberlin high school and Moody Institute of Chicago, Illinois; Ona M., who is married to Frank Russell of Clarksfield, this county and Leon B., who is a teacher in the schools of Fitchville. Both were educated in the Fitchville high school.

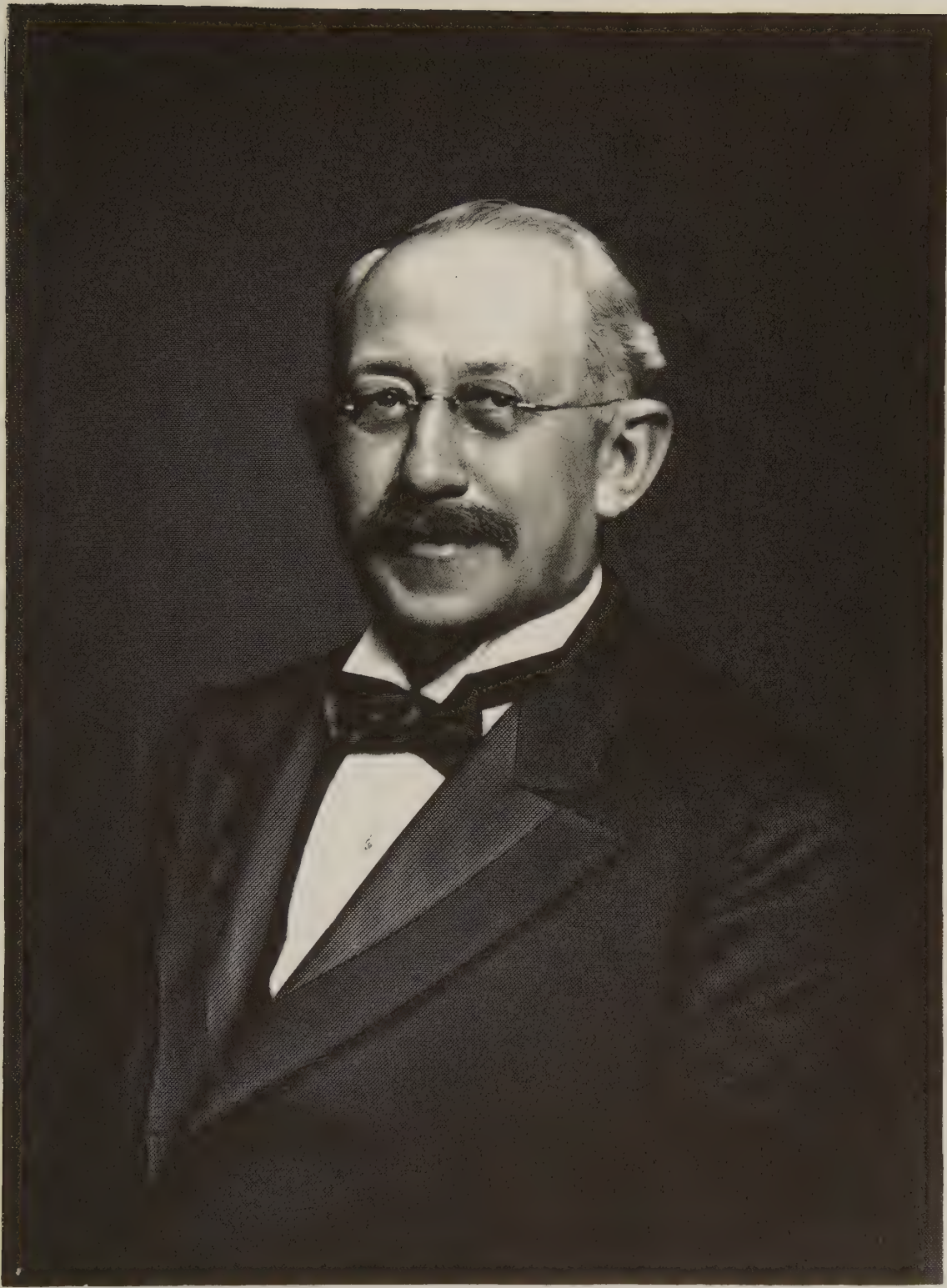
In his political views Mr. Stone is a stanch republican, being a firm believer in the principles of that party. Both he and his wife are esteemed in their home community as people of genuine personal worth, the hospitality of the best homes being freely accorded them.

HARLOW CASE STAHL.

Among the names of those who stand as the most prominent representatives of industrial Ohio, is that of Harlow Case Stahl. Not by leaps or bounds but by steady progress that ultimately reaches the objective point has he gained his present position, yet his rise has been rapid, owing to his ready recognition and intelligent appreciation of opportunities. He early learned to place the correct value upon life's contacts and experiences and this, combined with his study of trade conditions, has placed him in a position to quickly utilize every opportunity and make each moment count to the best advantage. He is today widely known as the president and treasurer of the Ohio Cultivator Company and since its inception, has been the leading spirit in the enterprise.

Mr. Stahl was born in a log house on a farm south of Fremont, Ohio, February 12, 1849, and as the name indicates is of German descent. His grandfather, John Stahl, was born in 1773, and came to the United States at an early day. His son, Jacob B. Stahl, the father of our subject, was also born in Germany and came to Ohio in 1832 at the age of eighteen years. He devoted his life to farming and spent his latter years near Fremont, Ohio. On the 21st of December, 1841, in Fremont, Ohio, he was married to Rachel E. Camp, who died September 5, 1877, while his death occurred January 27, 1883. He was born February 10, 1814, and he was, therefore, in the sixty-ninth year of his age at the time of his demise.

After acquiring his preliminary education in the public schools of Fremont, Harlow C. Stahl pursued a special business course at Oberlin, Ohio. His youthful days were largely devoted to the work of the home farm, whereon he remained until he attained the age of thirty, at which time he became identified with manufacturing interests in Fremont. The Ohio Cultivator Company, which stands today as Bellevue's largest industry, was established on a very small scale at



H. C. Stahl

Fremont in 1878. Mr. Stahl's mechanical ingenuity and his recognition of needs in the agricultural world that might be met through invention and manufacture, led him to take up the work of building cultivators, and his first year's output amounted to eighty-one machines, which were practically manufactured and marketed by him with the assistance of a local blacksmith. Up to that time, no successful riding cultivator had ever been placed upon the market and the first year's output was disposed of to farmers in the immediate vicinity of Fremont. The machines met with such unbounded success that their popularity was soon heralded in the neighboring counties so that it was possible for Mr. Stahl to find ready sale for two hundred cultivators in the second year. They were manufactured throughout the winter months in the blacksmith shop and when the spring trade opened were trailed behind a wagon and retailed to the farmers personally by Mr. Stahl. His keen prescience enabled him to recognize the possibilities of this piece of farm machinery and the necessity for increased capital prompted him to form a partnership under the name of Stahl & Peck. Originally, they conducted a feed store in connection with their manufacturing business, but the rapid increase of the trade led to the concentration of their energies upon manufacturing lines and this step toward expansion was rapidly followed by the organization of a stock company known as the Fremont Cultivator Company. From the beginning the growth of the business has been rapid and substantial, so much so that in 1886, enlarged quarters had to be secured. At that time negotiations were opened with the citizens at Bellevue for a location which terminated in the Fremont Cultivator Company's leaving its cramped quarters and removing to Bellevue. Soon afterward the business was reorganized under the name of the Ohio Cultivator Company, and although the new location gave them at the time much needed manufacturing facilities, this condition lasted for only a short time, as the increasing popularity of the famous Ohio cultivator was extending into the corn belts of the west. The growing trade demanded additions to the factory and the main building was converted into a three-story structure, after which a foundry was built, for up to that time both grey iron and malleable was purchased under contract from foundries in Cleveland.

While increasing the factory facilities, it was also found advisable to increase the line of machines and as a result the disc harrow business of the Dayton Farm Implement Company was purchased and removed to this place and made a part of the famous Ohio line. From that time, the growth of the business was very rapid and nearly every year has been marked by new additions being built to the factory and modern machinery being installed throughout all departments of the plant. The next important addition to the line of implements as well as to the plant of the cultivator company was the purchase of the buildings and equipment of the Bellevue Plow Company, whose property adjoined that of the cultivator company, lying on the opposite side of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad tracks. This gave to the cultivator company, one of the largest and strongest lines of small tools manufactures in the country and, with the increased and available capital at their command, this plant immediately entered upon a new and even more successful era. A few years later followed the purchase of the patents, good will, etc., of the Ohio Hay Press Company, whose product was at the time limited to but one style of press—a steam or belt power hay

press. To this has been added a full and complete line of one and two horse presses that have rapidly sprung into favor with the progressive hay balers throughout the United States. This branch of the business within a few years has developed to mammoth proportions until a large two-story building, one hundred and thirty by eighty feet, is now utilized for its conduct. Later came the purchase of the Bissell chilled plows, manufactured by the Bissell Plow Company of South Bend, Indiana. With the removal of this business to Bellevue the old foundry capacity soon reached its limit and a new foundry was placed in course of construction, ranking today as one of the largest and most modern foundries in Ohio. An entirely new power plant was put in operation in the summer of 1909, being driven by electricity and furnishing the power for every department of the works. With the purchase of the Bissell plow came a largely increased foreign trade for the output had been successfully introduced into European markets. No other agricultural implement factory in this country has enjoyed so rapid and substantial a growth as the Ohio Cultivator Company and throughout the entire period at its head, controlling and directing its interests, has stood H. C. Stahl. Branch houses have been established throughout the country, the company maintaining transfer stocks at Philadelphia; Rochester, New York; Richmond, Virginia; Columbus, Ohio; Lexington, Kentucky; Indianapolis, Indiana; Peoria, Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa; Wichita, Kansas; and Kansas City, Missouri. The company owns its own building in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where the business has outgrown the facilities of the average transfer or distributing house of agricultural implements and the business is conducted under a branch house management. At Kansas City, another large implement center, the company maintains a branch house manager together with an efficient corps of traveling men, as is done at Council Bluffs. At Dallas, Texas, the business reached such proportions that it was deemed advisable to purchase a warehouse, which was secured several years ago. Throughout these years of expansion and advancement, H. C. Stahl has always been at the head, managing and directing the affairs of the company to its present successful proportions. The capital stock has from time to time been increased until it is recorded today at one million dollars. Moreover, the enterprise has been one of immense value to Bellevue where, throughout the busy season in normal years, the factory has as high as three hundred men upon its pay roll, approximately one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars being paid to the employees. As his associate officers, Mr. Stahl, who is president and treasurer, has A. C. Stahl as vice-president; E. A. King, secretary; C. V. Brown, assistant secretary; J. E. Marvin, auditor; A. C. Dann, superintendent; and Dan Seltzer, assistant superintendent.

Mr. Stahl's hand is also the guiding factor in other enterprises, although the interests of the Ohio Cultivator Company claim the greater portion of his time, attention and energies. He is the president of the Bellevue Savings Bank, is president of the Harrah State Bank, of Harrah, Oklahoma, and is interested in various other organizations. He is likewise the owner of several farms in the immediate vicinity of Bellevue and has considerable land in other sections of the country.

On the 21st of October, 1874, in Southbury, New Haven county, Connecticut, Mr. Stahl was married to Miss Annie C. Mitchell of that place, a daughter of Nelson Warren and Edna Eliza (Platt) Mitchell, who were also natives of Connecticut. Her father married and took his bride to his father's home, there living for fifty years. The old home is still in possession of the Mitchell family. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Stahl was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stahl have been born four children: Edna Rachel, now the wife of Joseph E. Marvin, of Bellevue, Ohio; Alice Emeline, the wife of Daniel Seltzer of Bellevue; Marion Belle, the wife of Henry N. Schofield of Dallas, Texas; and Harlow Mitchell, who was born June 22, 1893, and is now attending the Culver Military College at Culver, Indiana.

Mr. Stahl is a member of the Masonic fraternity, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. A public spirit and marked philanthropy are strong characteristics of his nature and are manifest in his active aid and co-operation with every movement tending toward the development and improvement of Bellevue. His life work is notable by reason of the fact that without any especially favoring advantages at the outset of his career, he has worked his way steadily upward, meriting the prosperity that he has enjoyed and which has led him into the most important industrial relations. He is honored and respected for what he has accomplished and none the less so for the means which he has employed for the attainment of his success.

GEORGE H. GATES.

George H. Gates, who is serving efficiently as court bailiff of Huron county, is a native son of the Buckeye state, born in Newark, Ohio, May 26, 1858, his parents being Jacob and Rose (Chamberlin) Gates. The father was an engineer on the Pan Handle Railroad and was killed at Coshocton the morning prior to Thanksgiving day of 1872.

George H. Gates, the subject of this review, pursued his early education in the common schools and attended the Newark high school one year. Upon the death of his father, it was necessary that he provide for his own support, and accordingly he secured employment with S. A. Parr, a grocer of Newark, driving a delivery wagon and clerking in the store. At the age of nineteen years, he entered the employ of Cherry & Woolson, proprietors of the eating house of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company at Chicago Junction and Garrett, Indiana, remaining in their employ fifteen years.

Entering public life, Mr. Gates then served as deputy under Sheriff N. O. Allen, four years, while for a similar period, he acted in the same capacity under Sheriff Seneca Rouk. He was then, in 1900, elected sheriff of Huron county on the republican ticket and was re-elected to that office in 1902, which indicated that his services were entirely satisfactory to the public at large. After the expiration of his second term, he was appointed court bailiff and is the present incumbent in that office. He is well qualified to fill the office to the satisfaction of his people and with credit to himself, as he has demonstrated in the past.

Mr. Gates wedded Miss Lizzie A. Wilcox, of Centerton, Ohio, and their union has been blessed with a son and a daughter, Louis W., and Helen M. The family are prominent in the social circles of Norwalk, and all who know them entertain for them high regard, while as a public official, Mr. Gates has won the confidence of all with whom his business relations bring him in contact.

CALVERT A. MEAD.

A well developed and highly improved farm of ninety-three acres, situated within two miles and a half of the courthouse in Norwalk, is not only the present home of Calvert A. Mead, but was the place of his birth and here his entire life has been spent. He was born in a log house on this farm, June 9, 1834, and is the youngest in a family of ten children born of the marriage of Edmund W. Mead and Rachel Knapp. The former was born April 4, 1788, while the birth of the latter occurred February 14, 1790. They were married October 2, 1813, and it was in 1828, that Edmund W. Mead, with his family, then consisting of wife and six children, left their home in Putnam county, New York, and located in Huron county. Four years later, in 1832, the father took up his abode upon the farm which is now the home of his son Calvert A. He followed farming throughout his entire life, was industrious and prudent in his manner of living, and thus acquired a good farm. He eventually retired to private life, spending his last days in Norwalk, where his death occurred April 5, 1876, when he had reached the extreme old age of eighty-eight years. He was a republican in politics and was highly respected in the community in which he so long made his home. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund W. Mead numbered nine children, as follows: Jane E., who was born April 28, 1814; Elizabeth A., born February 26, 1816; Susan, born May 11, 1818; Silas K., November 19, 1820; Almira, born February 13, 1823; Alfred G., July 12, 1825; Rachel, born April 5, 1829; Charles E., January 14, 1832; and Calvert A., born June 9, 1834. The last three named were born after the removal of the family to Huron county.

Calvert A. Mead, as above stated, was born on the farm which is still his home. As a boy, he was reared to agricultural pursuits and has made farming his life work. He has improved his place with good substantial buildings, having a comfortable residence and ample outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. The place, comprising ninety-three acres, is conveniently located within two and a half miles of the courthouse in Norwalk. Near the house is a natural spring of water, supplying a small lake, which has been dug by Mr. Mead. He has stocked this with fish and it also affords a place for rowing, which adds greatly to the pleasure of the family and their friends, during the heated season. He formerly gave much of his attention to dairying, supplying a large number of patrons with milk, but he has abandoned this branch of his business and now gives his entire time to the cultivation of crops.

Mr. Mead chose as a companion and helpmate for the journey of life, Miss Ellen Mesnard, who was born April 30, 1836, their marriage being celebrated in 1857. Her father, Eri Mesnard, was of French descent and served as standard

county surveyor of Huron county for fourteen years. He surveyed the first railroad in the state of New York and in early life, engaged in teaching school in Ithaca, that state. His death occurred in 1879, and his wife survived for two years, passing away in 1881.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Mead has been blessed with six sons and one daughter, namely: Charles W., Byron L., Albert S., Gertrude Louella, Clayton B., Henry B. and Frank L., but the last named died in 1893. The surviving members of the family are all married. Mr. and Mrs. Mead celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1907, the date being the 24th of March. One peculiar feature on that occasion was the fact that out of a party of twenty-three, who sat together at the table, there was one guest present at the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Mead.

Mr. Mead has always been a staunch supporter of the republican party. A man of high ideals and manly principles, he is greatly respected in the community in which he has always resided, and through the companionship of his estimable wife and the pleasant surroundings of his rural home, he is enabled to live a contented and happy life.

HENRY T. GRAHAM.

Enterprise, industry, thrift and economy are the characteristic elements in the life of Henry T. Graham, who is numbered among the substantial agriculturists of Fairfield township, where he owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred and two acres. His birth occurred in Greenfield township, Huron county, on the 22d of July, 1862, his parents being George and Elizabeth (Myers) Graham, the former born in Durham county, England, on the 31st of May, 1836, while the latter's birth occurred in England in August, 1836. They were married ere their emigration to the United States in 1859 and on landing in this country at once made their way to Huron county, Ohio, settling in Greenfield township. There the father continued to make his home until called to his final rest. The mother still survives, however, and now resides in Norwalk, Ohio. Unto this worthy couple were born four children, namely: Henry T., Anna, Elizabeth and George.

General agricultural pursuits have claimed the attention of Henry T. Graham throughout his entire business career and in this field of labor, he has met with well merited and commendable prosperity. He remained a resident of his native township until 1900, when he purchased a farm of one hundred and two acres in Fairfield township and took up his abode thereon. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and each year gathers abundant harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields.

As a companion and helpmate on the journey of life, Mr. Graham chose Miss Grace Ryerson, who was born in February, 1871, her parents being George and Catherine (Edsall) Ryerson. She was one of a family of nine children, her brothers and sisters being as follows: Price, Edsall, George, Delno, Esther, Sarah, Dora and Catherine. Mr. and Mrs. Ryerson were natives of New Jersey, but be-

came residents of Huron county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Graham have one child, Edsall, who first opened his eyes to the light of the day on the 4th of January, 1896.

Mr. Graham's study of the political questions and issues of the day, has led him to give stalwart support to the men and measures of the republican party. He is now serving as a member of the school board, the cause of education ever finding in him a staunch champion. He likewise holds membership relations with the Fairfield Grange. His entire life has been passed in this community, and the fact that those who have known him longest, entertain for him the warmest regard is an indication that his life has ever been honorable and upright.

CHARLES A. McCULLOW.

The prosperity of any community, town or city depends upon its commercial activity, its industrial interests and its trade relations, and therefore among the builders of a town are those who stand at the head of the business enterprises. Prominent among those who are closely identified with the business activity of Greenwich, is Charles A. McCulloch, a native of Huron county, Ohio, born in Greenwich township on the 20th of September, 1857, a son of Joseph E. and Agnes (Bartlett) McCulloch. The father, who was but four years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal from New Jersey to Ohio, devoted his entire life to farming pursuits and passed away on the 1st of April, 1900. His wife, whose parents were also natives of New Jersey, was born in Huron county, Ohio, and her death occurred in 1860. But one child came to bless this union, the subject of this review.

Charles A. McCulloch acquired his education in the public schools of Greenwich and his boyhood and youthful days were passed on his father's farm, in the performance of the tasks that commonly fall to the lot of the country lad. He remained at home assisting his father until eighteen years of age, when he became a clerk in the general store of Healey & Travis, continuing this relation for two years. At the expiration of that period, he went to Cleveland, where he clerked in the store of Louis Leon for one year.

On the 23d of November, 1881, he was united in marriage to Miss Lovezilla L. Riblet, a daughter of David and Caroline (Mathias) Riblet, of Galion, Ohio, and unto this union has been born one daughter, Mabel, now Mrs. D. L. Webb, of Greenwich. Mr. and Mrs. McCulloch began their domestic life in Greenwich, where he became identified with the clothing business, in which he has continuously engaged to the present time. He carries a very complete and high grade line of mens' clothing and furnishings and the amount of business transacted over the counters of his store has already reached gratifying proportions and is constantly increasing in volume and importance. His place of business is one of the finest in the town and would be a credit to a city many times the size of Greenwich, while he is recognized as one of the substantial and prosperous citizens of the community.

Not only because of his success in the business world, however, is Mr. McCullow deserving of mention in this volume, for he is equally well known through his deep interest in public affairs and occupies a prominent position in political circles of his township. He gives his political support to the republican party and although neither desiring nor seeking office as a reward for party fealty, he has, nevertheless, been called by his fellowmen to fill positions of trust and responsibility in the township, which he has represented in the republican county committee for many years and has frequently acted as a delegate to district, county and state conventions. He served as township treasurer for two terms and as village clerk for several years, was a member of the board of trustees of the water works for several terms and served for some time as a member of the board of public service, in which capacity he is still acting. He has also been a member of the village board of education for several years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion.

Fraternally, Mr. McCullow is a member of Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., and has filled most of the chairs of that lodge, while he also holds membership in O. K. Lodge, No. 616, K. P., and is a charter member and treasurer of the lodge. He belongs to the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and is a charter member of the Eagle Lodge, No. 22, National Union. His devotion to the public welfare is unquestioned, arising as it does from a sincere desire for the general good. He lends his influence to all movements calculated to advance the public interests and is particularly strong in his advocacy of improvements of the town streets, public buildings and water works. He is very fond of fishing and hunting and as a recreation and relaxation from his work he takes annual trips into the woods and along the streams in the pursuit of his favorite pastimes. However, he is eminently a man of business, never permitting any interruption to distract his attention from his duties, and his close application and good management are potent factors in the prosperity which he now enjoys. Mrs. McCullow is a lady of superior traits of character and presides over her home, which is one of the handsomest in the town of Greenwich, in a charming manner, imparting thereto an atmosphere of refinement and culture which makes it an important factor in the social life of the community.

JAMES P. LIMBIRD.

A farm of seventy-eight acres in Ridgefield township, Huron county, pays tribute to the care and attention bestowed upon it by its owner, James P. Limbird. He was born near Kimball, Erie county, Ohio, on the 1st of February, 1861, and is a son of David and Mary P. (Adams) Limbird. His father, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1834, came to the United States, landing at New York on July 6, 1852. Continuing his way westward, he located in Erie county, Ohio, where he worked for one year, hoeing corn, at first receiving but fifty cents per day in return for his labor. At the expiration of that period, he went to Van Wert county, Ohio, but in the spring of 1856, returned to Erie county and later went to California, where he was engaged in mining and ranching for some time.

In June, 1859, during the great frost, he returned to the middle west and located in Illinois, where he resided for a short time, and then purchased a farm of eighty acres near Kimball, Erie county, Ohio. On the 19th of January, 1860, he married Miss Mary P. Adams, a daughter of John and Anna Adams, and in their family were three children: George, deceased; Olive, who has also passed away; and James P., of this review. Mrs. Limbird, also a native of Lincolnshire, England, was born December 5, 1835. She and her husband still survive and make their home near the subject of this record. David Limbird, had four brothers who served in the Civil war: Anthony, Mark, Richard and James.

Reared under the parental roof, James P. Limbird is indebted to the common-school system for the education which he acquired. He also early learned the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting through assisting his father, and upon attaining his majority, he wisely decided to make the occupation to which he had been reared, his life work. He continued to engage in farming in Erie county, until 1907, in which year he purchased his present place from the Bogardus estate. His farm consists of seventy-eight acres of finely improved land with substantial buildings upon it and the excellent appearance which the place presents is indicative of the care and labor expended upon it by its owner. His entire time and attention are devoted to the farm and his business interests are bringing him a gratifying financial return.

Mr. Limbird was united in marriage November 24, 1895, to Miss Anna Moos, a daughter of Edward and Mary Moos, of Erie county, Ohio, and unto this union have been born seven children, of whom Ruth, Grace, James, Helen and Arthur still survive, the others passing away in infancy. Mr. Limbird holds membership in the Congregational church, of which he was a trustee for a number of years and to the support of which he is a liberal contributor. He is a man highly esteemed in the community, his good qualities of heart and mind gaining the warm friendship of many with whom he has come in contact.

SEELEY BURDETT PALMER.

Seeley Burdett Palmer, a retired agriculturist residing in Norwalk, was born in Fitchville, Huron county, Ohio, on the 29th of May, 1848. Being reared on the old homestead farm, he early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and continued to assist his father in the cultivation of the fields until nineteen years of age. He then became connected with the building department of the Western Union Telegraph Company, putting up wires and working in the eastern part of the United States and Nova Scotia. He was also employed on the construction of the line from St. Louis to Toledo and subsequently worked for Jay Gould in the same capacity for a year and a half. He has a very fine gold watch, chain and charm which were presented to his brother-in-law, D. Doran, by Jay Gould and given to Mr. Palmer by his sister at the time of her husband's death. After leaving the employ of Mr. Gould, our subject resumed the work of general farming, with which line of activity he was successfully identified until the time of his retirement from active busi-



MR. AND MRS. S. B. PALMER

ness life in 1907. He retains possession of the old family homestead of three hundred and fifty acres, which is still under his management and is also the owner of some real estate in Cleveland. On putting aside the active work of the fields, he purchased a lot in Norwalk and erected thereon a handsome brick residence, in which he has since made his home, enjoying in well earned ease, the fruits of his former toil. His energy, economy and perseverance constituted the basis of the prosperity which has crowned his labors and he has long been numbered among the most substantial, enterprising and respected citizens of his native county.

Mr. Palmer has been married twice, the first union being with Miss Iola Martin, whose birth occurred in the year 1859. She passed away in January, 1876, leaving a daughter, Dora, who is now the wife of Hal Amsden. For his second wife, Mr. Palmer chose Miss Elizabeth Chase, whom he wedded on the 1st of May, 1878. Unto them were born the following children. S. Burdett, Jr., who was born November 13, 1879, married Miss Lena May Jennings and now follows merchandising at Fitchville, where he is also serving as postmaster. Benjamin Chase, who was born April 7, 1881, and married Miss Catherine Kronenbitter, is now manager of the Antiseptic Telephone Company of Los Angeles, California. D. Doran, who was born August 27, 1884, married Miss Evalina White. He was formerly a bookkeeper in the Huron County Bank for three years, but is now engaged in general farming. Lucy Thelma, whose birth occurred on the 25th of October, 1886, gave her hand in marriage to Edwin Martin Thoma. All of these children obtained their education in Fitchville and the sons are graduates of the Sandusky Business College.

Politically Mr. Palmer is a stalwart republican and has capably served his fellow townsmen in the capacity of trustee for several years. He likewise acted as a member of the school board for a long period and has ever been a helpful friend of the cause of public instruction. Fraternally, he is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is likewise a valued member of the Congregational church, conforming his life to its teachings. At all times his life has been active, useful and honorable and it is his genuine personal worth that has gained for him the favorable position which he occupies in the regard of those who know him.

William Chase, the father of Mrs. Palmer, was born in Hunter, Green county, New York, in June, 1809, and was a brother of the man who is at the head of the Chase Piano Company. It was in 1835 that he came to Ohio and settled in Fitchville township, Huron county, making that his permanent home. He always took a great interest in public affairs, holding many responsible positions in the community where he resided, and in the administration of the different offices of trust that he was called upon to fill, he made a fine reputation, and as a business man was imbued with high principles and sterling integrity. He was twice married, his first union being with Pemelia Wolcott, whom he wedded in 1836 and by whom he had three children, namely: Alvin B.; Mary F.; and Watson D. Both sons enlisted in the Union army during the Civil war, Alvin B. serving for four years with General Sherman, being with that general on his famous march to the sea. Watson D. enlisted in 1864 and served until hostilities ceased, both contracting diseases caused by continuous exposure to all kinds of weather and the

hardships incidental to the life of the soldiers, which hastened their deaths in future years. The mother of these children died in 1849 and in 1850, at Norwalk, Ohio, Mr. Chase was united in marriage to Miss Betsy A. Jump, who had come to this city in 1836. After finishing her education in a seminary under the instruction of the Rev. E. and Mrs. Thompson, she engaged in teaching school in Norwalk until her marriage to Mr. Chase, then going with him to Fitchville, where they toiled together, making for themselves a pleasant and happy home. At that time sewing machines were not in vogue and she spun, cut and made the fabrics into garments for her family. She was not only the seamstress and maid of all work in her own home, but her duties as a wife and mother were always performed with untiring zeal and energy. She was one of the many ladies that helped to prepare boxes of clothing and food for the soldiers who were fighting for their country in the south. By his second marriage Mr. Chase had two children, but Ella E., who was born in 1856, died in 1883, the only survivor being Elizabeth, now Mrs. Palmer, who was born in 1859. The parents were both earnest and consistent members of the Second Congregational church of Fitchville, taking an active interest in religious work, Mr. Chase serving as deacon up to the time of his death and his wife acting as teacher in the Sunday school. He passed away June 17, 1888, on the seventy-ninth anniversary of his birth. After his death, Mrs. Chase remained on the old homestead for about three years and then went to live with her daughter, Mrs. Palmer, dying at her home on the 28th of July, 1893.

GEORGE GATES.

George Gates, one of Greenfield township's native sons and the owner of one hundred and thirty-three acres of land, was born on the 11th of June, 1859. His parents, George and Catherine (Ronk) Gates, were both born in Germany, the father March 14, 1825, the mother March 3, 1824, and there they grew to maturity and were married. Shortly after their union, they came to the United States and about 1850, went to Zanesville, Ohio, where they lived for a short time and then located in Greenfield township, Huron county. The father was a stonemason by trade, and for a few years after his arrival in this country worked in the quarry at the old Lodi Mill, which was not far from the place he had selected for a home. In 1868, he bought a small tract of land in Peru township, which he sold three years later to buy one hundred and eighty acres adjoining it in the northern part of Greenfield township. This second farm remained his home until his death, which occurred on the 3d of October, 1875. He was a consistent member of the Catholic church of the German settlement in Peru township, living up as best he could to its teachings. Mrs. Gates still survives her husband and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. John Schaffer, of Bronson township, Huron county. Mr. and Mrs. Gates had eight children: Nicholas A., born December 18, 1850, and Frank J., born November 2, 1852, both of whom are residents of this township; Mary, born September 8, 1864, the wife of Philip Barman, of Peru township; William, born May 20, 1857, a resident of Greenfield township; George, of this sketch;

Julia, born June 21, 1862, now deceased, who was the wife of Delmar C. Burdge; Rose, born July 17, 1864, the wife of John Shaffer, of Bronson township; and Henry, who was born October 19, 1868, and died August 11, 1895.

Greenfield township, the place of his nativity, has been George Gates's home through the greater part of his life. From the public schools of the district he obtained a knowledge of the fundamental branches of an English education and at home received the much more practical schooling for the life of a farmer to which he was to devote himself. At the age of twenty-nine he married and made a home for himself, but it was not until 1905, that he bought his present farm, having in the intervening years tilled the soil and reaped the harvests of land that he rented. He procured his farm from Ernest Chambers, a well improved tract that is excellently adapted to the general farming that Mr. Gates conducts there. He is a public spirited citizen as well as a good farmer, taking especial interest in the cause of education, which he has served in his district as a member of the school board.

On the 17th of January, 1888, at the Bismarck Catholic church Father Titterist pronounced the words that made Mr. Gates and Miss Catherine Hosman man and wife in the eyes of the church and of the law. Mrs. Gates was born in Norwich township, Huron county, February 26, 1864, and is a daughter of Henry and Anna (Weisler) Hosman, both natives of Germany, who shortly after their marriage in that land came to Huron county, Ohio. They settled first in Peru township, and then in Norwich township, which remained their home until their death. The father, who was born July 14, 1828, died November 7, 1904, and the mother, whose birth occurred July 26, 1826, died on the 11th of October, 1898. They were the parents of six children: Mary A., born April 15, 1860; Henry J., born January 20, 1862; Catherine, now Mrs. Gates; William J., born March 10, 1866; Joseph E., born November 26, 1868; and Albert J., born March 11, 1870.

Of Mr. and Mrs. Gates's union there have been born three children: Rose Bell, born June 25, 1889; Charles B., born January 25, 1893; and Grace, born August 14, 1895. All live at home. Mr. Gates and his family are members of the Catholic church, but in political matters he is not guided by any party, preferring to regard questions of importance from all sides and cast his influence or vote as seems to him right.

GEORGE BARGUS.

George Bargus, whose life history constitutes a fair record of responsibilities wisely carried, great opportunities turned to the best account, patriotism inspired by a heart loyal to his country in her time of need, is one of Huron county's most prominent citizens and a director in the Huron County Bank, at Norwalk, although he is now living retired in Townsend township. He was born in Newark, New Jersey, April 29, 1839, his parents being William and Charlotte (Argyle) Bargus, the father a native of New Jersey and of German Extraction, and the mother a native of Scotland. Left an orphan in infancy, George Bargus was at an early age thrown upon his own resources. His education, which was ac-

quired in the district schools of New Jersey, was superficial and inadequate, although later, he succeeded in acquiring a good, practical English education and this, coupled with his natural ability to cope with intricate business problems, untiring energy and keen sagacity, enabled him to win success in every undertaking. He is largely self-educated, acquiring a remarkably wide range of information from his reading and study. From earliest youth, he maintained an unbounded faith in humanity, finding much to interest him in the newspapers, magazines and his own well supplied library.

When thirteen years of age, Mr. Bargus went to Rochester, New York, where he learned the baker's and confectioner's trade, there serving an apprenticeship of four years. He then journeyed westward but, finding no opening for his trade, he was glad to work at anything that would provide a means of subsistence. During the winter of 1859-60, he traveled through the states of Tennessee, Arkansas and Louisiana, but at the opening of the Civil war he returned to the north, enlisting in Company E, First Battalion of Yates, Sharpshooters in 1861, which battalion in 1864 became the Sixty-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered in as sergeant, but owing to distinguished service and gallantry at the battle of Corinth and in other engagements, he was rapidly promoted through the different ranks to first lieutenant. For more than a year, he commanded his company and was with his regiment in all its marches and campaigns, participating in the battles of New Madrid; Island No. 10; the siege of Corinth; Resaca, Georgia; Big Shanty; Kenesaw Mountain; Atlanta, July 22 and also on July 28, 1864; Ezra's church and numerous minor engagements. He was with General Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and during his service sustained several slight wounds. He was mustered out in January, 1865.

When the war was over, Lieutenant Bargus took a commercial course in Oberlin College, after which he went west for one year, when, on returning to Huron county, he settled on a farm in Townsend township, near Collins, where he subsequently engaged in farming and fruit raising. He became a large landowner, his farms at one time containing more than four hundred acres, and he yet owns about three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, well improved and under a high state of cultivation. For some years, he also owned and operated a sawmill, doing a large business in lumber and timber until April, 1890, when his mills were entirely destroyed by a cyclone.

On the 12th of April, 1866, Mr. Bargus was united in marriage to Miss S. Alice Humphrey, a daughter of William and Sarah Ann (Bierce) Humphrey, natives of Litchfield county, Connecticut. To this union were born four children: George, deceased; Alvin Dudley; May, deceased; and Edwin Humphrey. The wife and mother died in March, 1895, and Mr. Bargus was again married on the 29th of April, 1896, his second union being with Miss Josie May Ulmer, a daughter of Peter and Mary Ulmer. She passed away in April, 1901.

In his political views, Mr. Bargus is an uncompromising republican and while still a youth, became very much interested in the slavery question, his sympathies being with the slave. All his life he has been an active party worker, at all times being able to defend his position with regard to republican principles. Mr. Bargus cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and was a close personal friend of the late President McKinley and materially assisted in campaign work

in Ohio in 1896 and 1900. He is also a great admirer of Ex-President Roosevelt as he is of President Taft. He belongs to no church but he is a firm believer in Christianity of the practical kind. He is a member of Townsend Post, No. 414, G. A. R., of which he was the first commander and served in that position for many years. He also served as general commander of the Fourteenth District Brigade and as assistant inspector and aide-de-camp on the department staff, G. A. R. of Ohio. He likewise acted as colonel, commanding F. H. Boalt Command, No. 17, U. V. U., of Norwalk, Ohio, and as deputy commander of Ohio. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and for several years was worshipful master of East Townsend Lodge, No. 322, A. F. & A. M., to which lodge he has belonged for over forty years. He is a member of Huron Chapter, No. 7, R. A. M., and of Norwalk Commandery, No. 18, K. T.

Successful and honorable in business, respected and beloved by his fellow citizens and army comrades, Mr. Bargus is now enjoying rest from his former business activity, and while he yet maintains a personal supervision over his large estate, he spends most of his time in his beautiful country home near Collins. Especially interested in literature, he finds his chief recreation in the hours spent in his library, which contains many volumes of ancient and modern history, biography and the sciences. A most companionable and kindly man, Mr. Bargus entertains broad, optimistic views of life, has a genuine faith in mankind and is never happier than when giving assistance to those in need who are worthy of that which he can give them. To do right for the love of right has ever been his rule of action, and his industry, combined with practical common sense, has brought success to all his efforts. Always cheerful and contented, he has gathered around him a circle of friends almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

JOSEPH H. GROFF.

Joseph H. Groff, who now gives his attention to the cultivation of a fine farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres in Peru township, is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Baden on the 6th of February, 1841. His parents, Joseph and Grazenaca (Borer) Groff, were likewise natives of the fatherland, the former born on the 20th of January, 1812, and the latter on the 4th of February, 1818. In 1847, they set sail for the new world and after an ocean voyage of about forty days landed on the shores of this country. They established their home at Sandusky, Ohio, and there continued to reside until 1872, when they removed to Cleveland, where they spent their remaining days. The father was called to his final rest in 1891 and the mother passed away in February of the previous year. Unto this worthy couple were born eight children, namely: Joseph H., of this review; Anna, who is deceased, as is also her husband, Fred Berkley; Vincent W., a resident of Cleveland, Ohio; Henry, likewise living in Cleveland; John, whose demise occurred when he had attained the age of thirty-seven years; Louisa, who wedded William Gregory, both she and her husband being now deceased; and two who died in infancy.

Joseph H. Groff, who was a little lad of six years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, obtained his education in the schools of Sandusky. In the evenings and during the periods of vacation he learned the trade of a baker and confectioner under the direction of Adam Miller, in whose employ he remained after completing his schooling, eventually being made foreman of the bakery. At the time of the Civil war, however, he put aside all business and personal considerations and on the 14th of August, 1862, at Sandusky, enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was organized at Monroeville, Ohio. The regiment was sent to Virginia and participated in a number of hotly contested engagements as well as various skirmishes. At the battle of Winchester, from June 13th to 15th inclusive, Mr. Groff was captured with four thousand other men and sent to Libby prison, where he was incarcerated for about a week and then taken to Belle Isle, there being imprisoned for about two months. Later, he was paroled. He saw active service in the battles of Appicon, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Hatchie's Run, Petersburg, High Bridge and Appomattox, and when hostilities had ceased, he was mustered out at Camp Chase on the 12th of June, 1865.

Mr. Groff returned home with a most creditable military record and once more became identified with the bakery business at Sandusky, which he followed for a few years. During his arduous experience as a soldier, he had contracted rheumatism and this at length made it necessary for him to abandon the bakery business, after which he secured employment with the Sandusky Tool Company, remaining with that concern for several years. From 1873 until 1891, he capably discharged the duties devolving upon him as a member of the police force and subsequently was employed as a conductor and motorman by the Sandusky & Norwalk Street Railway Company. He remained with the street car company until 1899, when he came to Peru township, Huron county, and purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres from John Giger, in the cultivation of which he has since been actively and successfully engaged. He has placed a number of substantial improvements on the property and now has one of the finest farms in this section, the well tilled fields annually returning golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor which is bestowed upon them.

On the 6th of August, 1863, at Sandusky, Ohio, Mr. Groff, was united in marriage to Miss Mary Fritz, the wedding ceremony being performed by Father N. Mose. Mrs. Groff was born at Alsace, Lorriane, Germany, on the 20th of June, 1836, her parents being Mr. and Mrs. John M. Fritz, who took up their abode at Frank in Thompson township, Seneca county, Ohio, after coming to this country. She was a little maiden of eight years when she left her native land. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Groff were born seven children, as follows: Mary, who died in infancy; Joseph, who wedded Miss Carrie Sherer and lives at Sandusky, Ohio; Mary, also a resident of Sandusky, who is the wife of H. S. Arnold, by whom she has four children: Mary, Louisa, Walter and Joseph; Catherine and Lawrence, who are at home; Anna, the wife of George Smith, of Sandusky, Ohio; and John, who is likewise at home. The wife and mother passed away on the 29th of March, 1909, her remains being interred in St. Mary's cemetery at Sandusky, where her father also lies buried.

Mr. Groff still maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army post at Norwalk, Ohio. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church of Sherman township. His life has been an active, useful and honorable one and he well merits the respect and esteem which are uniformly accorded him.

SPILLER M. SLY.

Spiller M. Sly, a farmer of Fitchville township, who has filled several of the local offices of government, was born in Milan, Erie county, Ohio, September 15, 1845, and is the son of Willard and Martha J. (Laughlin) Sly.

The mother was born in Gallia county, Ohio, but the father's birthplace was New York state. He was but a young man, however, when in 1843, he came to Ohio and commenced farming. In 1845, he came to Fitchville, township, Huron county, where he lived until the excitement consequent to the discovery of gold in California aroused a spirit of unrest in his breast. In the spring of 1852, he joined the vast army of gold seekers on the overland trail, from which he was destined never to return. For four years his family heard from him regularly, and then no word at all. It was known that he had engaged extensively in the horse business and had bought a large drove of animals which he intended bringing to the eastern markets to dispose of, and it is supposed that in crossing the plains, he was attacked by Indians and murdered. He left a widow and a son, Spiller M., to mourn his loss. Mrs. Sly died in September, 1893.

Spiller M. Sly was reared as a farmer's boy, largely under his mother's guidance. He attended the county schools during the winter months and made the best use of the small opportunities they afforded for obtaining an education. At the age of twenty-five, he undertook the responsibilities of a home of his own and purchased a farm in Fitchville township on which he has lived for the past twenty-seven years. It is a splendid tract of land lying just beyond the village of Fitchville, is well improved and under a fine state of cultivation. On it he pursues general farming and raises a large amount of stock. Mr. Sly was one of the organizers of the Clinton Air Line Telephone Company in 1903, was one of the charter members of the concern and one of its first board of directors. At present, he is vice-president of the company, which has for the past three years had the telephone exchange in his house. He has also rendered other valuable service to the people of this township. For twelve years, he filled the position of township clerk, an able official, was trustee for three years, and is now and has been for many years, a member of the school board.

On the 15th of March, 1870, was celebrated Mr. Sly's marriage to Miss Josie Pierce, the daughter of Philo and Elizabeth (White) Pierce, of Fitchville township, where Mr. Pierce engaged in farming. The mother was born here, the father in New York state, but both the White and Pierce families were among the early settlers in this county and were influential in its affairs and in promoting its growth and advancement. Mr. Pierce died June 20, 1901, his wife having preceded him to the grave some years, her death having occurred November 29, 1895.

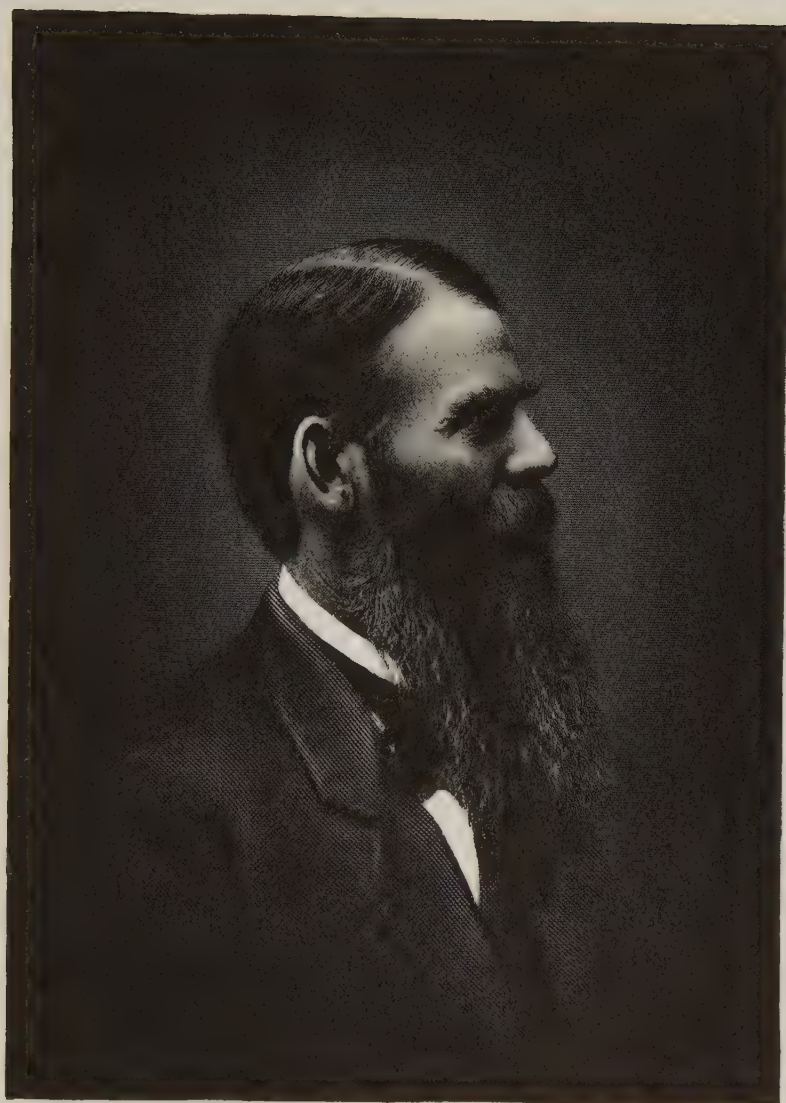
To Mr. and Mrs. Sly have been born four children: John W., who is married and is a farmer of Fitchville township; Elizabeth, the wife of John Buck, of Cleveland, Ohio; Dorothy, now Mrs. William E. Glossup of Louisville, Kentucky; and Marguerite, a teacher in the schools of Fitchville. The family are members of the Baptist church and are identified closely with its work.

Mr. Sly is a republican, though he does not take a very active part in political affairs. However, he never fails to cast his vote on election day and has on several occasions been a delegate to county, district and state conventions. He is a charter member of Tent No. 125, Knights of the Maccabees, has filled every office of the order, and has been otherwise very active in the affairs of the local lodge. In the Baptist church, he has for a number of years filled the position of trustee, for he is a man who inspires the confidence of his fellows, and time has proved that this reliance is not misplaced. His record as the incumbent of every office has been clean, and the public spirit that rules his acts has led him to promote eagerly the welfare and advancement of the township.

ALONZO L. SIMMONS.

Alonzo L. Simmons, whose demise occurred on the 8th of July, 1908, was long numbered among the substantial and leading citizens of Huron county. He was born in Greenfield township, this county, on the 6th of December, 1835, and comes of good old Revolutionary stock, his paternal great-grandfather, Edward Simmons, having served as captain in the Continental line of Massachusetts until the surrender of Yorktown. He was a miller by trade and made his home in Rehoboth, Bristol county, Massachusetts. In his family were four children: Edward, who settled in New Hampshire and became a prominent judge; Noble, a blacksmith, who made his home in New York state; William, who died in Massachusetts; and Eliphalet B., the grandfather of our subject. The last named was born in Bristol county, Massachusetts, in 1773, and was there reared to manhood, removing to Delaware county, New York, in 1804. In the latter place he was engaged in the lumber business for thirteen years and while a resident there he was married to Miss Esther Brown, a daughter of Captain Charles Brown, of New London, Connecticut. In 1817 he started for the Firelands of Ohio, making the trip by wagon, arriving here on the 12th of July of that year. He purchased land in Greenfield township, Huron county, where as a pioneer he engaged in the improvement and cultivation of the land and in the midst of the wilderness developed a fine farm. As time passed he prospered in his undertakings and eventually acquired a large property. After a useful and well spent life he died at his home in Greenfield township, January 26, 1836, when in his sixty-third year. He was a democrat in politics and always took an active interest in public affairs. He was twice married and had a family of four children, namely: Harlon E., Charles B., Albert and Washington L.

Of this family Harlon E. Simmons was the father of our subject. He was born in Rehoboth, Bristol county, Massachusetts, December 14, 1798, and was twenty-one years of age when he started for the Firelands, where his father had located two years previously. With one horse and an open wagon he journeyed from Massa-



A. L. Simmons

chusetts to Ohio, starting in October and arriving in his father's home in Huron county in December, 1819, after about six weeks spent on the road. He purchased land near his father's home and at once commenced its cultivation and improvement. In 1827, however, he returned to Massachusetts, where on the 17th of July of that year he was married to Miss Ann Ide, a daughter of Joseph Ide, of Attleboro, Bristol county, and accompanied by his bride he then returned to his Ohio home. They became the parents of six children, namely: Rufus A., Abby N., L. Curtiss, Alonzo L., Emily and Ann. The father passed away March 21, 1875, at the age of seventy-seven years, and the mother departed this life on the 30th of May, 1877. He took quite an active part in public affairs. The first singing school as well as the first choir in Greenfield township was organized under his leadership. In politics he was originally a Jacksonian democrat but in 1856, on the organization of the republican party, he joined its ranks.

Alonzo L. Simmons was reared under the parental roof and obtained his early education in the district schools of his home neighborhood. He also attended the high school at Norwalk and North Fairfield, and for seven years he engaged in teaching during the winter months, while the summers were devoted to the work of the farm. He eventually became the owner of several hundred acres of rich and productive land, which returned to him a gratifying annual income. In 1871 he purchased an interest in the Phoenix gristmill, to the operation and management of which he devoted much time and attention throughout the remainder of his active business career. He likewise served as the vice-president of the North Fairfield Savings Bank until the time of his death and was well known and highly esteemed as a most prosperous, progressive and representative citizen of his native county. The success which attended his undertakings was entirely the result of his untiring industry and capable management and he justly earned the proud American title of a self-made man.

On the 24th of April, 1862, Mr. Simmons was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Minges, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 28th of February, 1842. Her father, John E. Minges, was born in September, 1813, in Fayette township, Seneca county, New York, and during his boyhood developed rare mechanical genius, being able to work at several trades. In 1833 he came to Ohio, following his father, John Minges, who was drowned while crossing Lake Erie, and the son came on to Huron county to settle up the estate and take charge of the property. After working for some time on a farm in Greenfield township he removed to Seneca county, Ohio, where he purchased land and turned his attention to its development and cultivation. On the 12th of June, 1836, Mr. Minges was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Seed, who was born in New York, May 25, 1819, and came west with her parents, locating in Venice township, Seneca county. She died May 12, 1839, leaving no children, and was buried at Attica, Ohio. Mr. Minges was again married April 27, 1841, his second union being with Miss Lydia F. Wilbur, who was born in Cayuga county, New York, January 30, 1820, a daughter of Nathan and Esther (LaBarre) Wilbur. In 1826 her parents settled in Sherman township, Huron county, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Their children were: Caroline E.; Sarah Jane; Esther Cornelia; John; and Emeline E. The children born to John E. and Lydia F. Minges were: Margaret E., the widow of Alonzo L. Simmons, of this review; Flora M., the wife of Frank Marriott, a law-

yer of Delaware, Ohio; and Dessie M., the wife of George A. Waggaman, a broker of New York city. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Marriott are: John Minges; Wilbur McClellan; Florence Dale; Francis Marion; and Merrick Joy. In 1855 Mr. Minges returned to Huron county and located in North Fairfield village. He had previously engaged in merchandising at Attica and in this county he continued to carry on the same business for some time before establishing himself on a farm in Greenfield in 1858. Ten years later he removed to Peru township, where he was variously employed until his death, which occurred on the 26th of January, 1885. He was widely known as an active and enterprising citizen and had the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact. His political support was given to the republican party and prior to the Civil war he was a stanch abolitionist, carrying his principles into practice by harboring fugitive slaves. In religious faith he was a Wesleyan Methodist.

In his political views Mr. Simmons was a stanch republican and for a number of years served as trustee in both Greenfield and Fairfield townships. He was a great lover of music and, being a vocalist of considerable ability, his services as a singer were much in demand at social gatherings. His death, which occurred on the 8th of July, 1908, when he had attained the age of seventy-two years, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had an extensive circle of friends throughout this county, where his entire life was spent. His widow still survives and is now very comfortably situated financially. She is a gentle, kindly woman, charitable in her estimate of every one and her many excellent traits of heart and mind have won for her the esteem and admiration of a host of warm friends.

AUGUST BORES.

August Bores has found in the rich, fertile soil of Huron county ample scope for his activities, and in the years that have come and gone has accumulated a valuable property, comprising one hundred and twenty-six acres of land in Sherman township, on which he resides, while he also owns another farm of one hundred and eighty-six acres in the same township. His birth occurred in Pontiac, Huron county, Ohio, on the 1st of March, 1862, his parents being David and Anna Marie (Fauchinger) Bores. His paternal grandparents, John and Catherine (Klepel) Bores, spent their entire lives in Germany. The grandfather was a soldier in the German army and participated in the war with France, fighting against Napoleon. Unto him and his wife were born five children, namely: John; Louis; Elizabeth; David; and Minnie, who is now the wife of Philip Thoma, an agriculturist of Peru township, this county. The two last named are the only members of the family who crossed the Atlantic and established their home in the United States.

David Bores, the father of August Bores, was born in Germany on the 22d of January, 1833, and made the voyage to this country in the year 1853, in company with his sister Minnie. After landing in New York, he at once made his way to Ridgefield township, Huron county, Ohio, where for three years he worked by the month as a farm hand. About 1856, he rented a tract of land and was successfully and energetically engaged in its operation for a period of six years. By

dint of close economy and careful expenditure, he at length accumulated capital sufficient with which to purchase a farm of his own and eventually became recognized as one of the substantial and enterprising agriculturists as well as representative citizens of the community. He now owns a well improved farm of two hundred and forty acres in Sherman township, which annually returns to him a gratifying income. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he has served as road supervisor and also as trustee of Sherman township, holding the latter position for twelve years. In the year 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Marie Fauchinger, a native of Germany, who came to the United States in company with her brother Joseph. They became the parents of six children, as follows: Joseph, who is now deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of C. Wilhelm; Henry; August, of this review; John; and Emma, who is the wife of William Ringlein.

August Bores, whose name introduces this record, obtained his education in the district schools and early in life became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist through the assistance which he rendered his father in the cultivation of the home farm. He has always given his attention to the work of the fields and that his efforts in this direction have met with success is indicated by the fact that he is now the owner of two well improved and valuable farms in Sherman township, comprising one hundred and twenty-six and one hundred and eighty-six acres of land respectively.

On the 1st of June, 1886, Mr. Bores was joined in wedlock to Miss Helen Bauman, a daughter of John and Barbara Bauman, whose family numbered three children, as follows: Emma, the wife of Anthony Hammersmith; Mary, who gave her hand in marriage to Henry Bores, a brother of our subject; and Helen, now Mrs. August Bores. The mother of these children has passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Bores now have five children: Otto, who was born in 1887; Alpha, whose birth occurred in 1889; Rosa, born in 1891; August, in 1893; and Arthur, in 1900.

Like his father, Mr. Bores is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the democratic party and has served as a member of the school board and also in the position of road supervisor. Fraternally, he is identified with the Knights of Columbus at Monroeville, Ohio, in which organization his sons, Otto and Alpha, also hold membership. The different members of the family all belong to the Catholic church. Throughout the county in which his entire life has been spent, Mr. Bores is well and favorably known, having won the kindly esteem and regard of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

PRICE VENOSTRAN RYERSON.

Price Venostran Ryerson, who for the past five years has been living retired in North Fairfield, was formerly actively and successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Huron county, owning a farm in Peru township. His birth occurred in this county on the 6th of November, 1851, his parents being George M. and Sarah Catherine (Edsall) Ryerson. The paternal grandfather, Peter Ryerson, had a family of eleven children, namely: Paul, Nicholas, John,

Martin, Dolly, Jane, Libby, Eliza, Sarah, William and George M. The maternal grandparents of our subject were David and Hannah (Perry) Edsall, the latter being an aunt of O. H. Perry, of Lake Erie fame. Their family numbered nine children, as follows: Joseph, Benjamin, John, Brice, William, Thomas, Margaret, Hannah and Sarah Catherine. George M. Ryerson, the father of Price V. Ryerson, who was born on the boundary line between New Jersey and New York about 1824, passed away in the year 1902. The birth of his wife occurred in Vernon, New Jersey, in 1830. Unto this worthy couple were born the following children: Price V., Edsall Farber, George E., Deleno P., Sarah, Esther, Dora, Catherine and Grace.

Throughout his active business career Price V. Ryerson was engaged in general agricultural pursuits in Peru township and, though he has now been living retired for five years, still owns his farm there. The success which attended his labors as an agriculturist, was entirely the result of his untiring industry and capable management, and he has long been numbered among the substantial, enterprising and respected citizens of his native county. As stated above, he now makes his home in North Fairfield.

On the 1st of January, 1879, Mr. Ryerson was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Hinkley, whose birth occurred in Bronson township, Huron county, on the 16th of June, 1857, her parents being William S. and Lucy (Snyder) Hinkley. Her paternal grandparents, Benjamin and Maria (Paine) Hinkley, were both natives of Tompkins county, New York, born in the years 1809 and 1811 respectively. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Ryerson were John and Harriett (Watros) Snyder, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, the former born in 1804 and the latter in 1818. Their children were eight in number, as follows: Henry, Vincent, Sylvester, John, Maria, Lucy, Caroline and one who died in infancy. The great grandparents of Mrs. Ryerson on the maternal side were Peter and Hannah (Wells) Snyder, the former being a native of Holland. William S. Hinkley, the father of Mrs. Ryerson, was born near Syracuse, New York, on the 17th of October, 1832, while the birth of his wife occurred near Catskill, Greene county, New York, on the 26th of April, 1837. Unto Price V. and Mary (Hinkley) Ryerson has been born one child, Roxy, whose natal day was January 23, 1898.

Mr. Ryerson is now serving as trustee and treasurer in the Methodist church, of which he is a most consistent and faithful member. Having spent their entire lives in this county, both he and his wife are widely and favorably known within its borders, their many excellent traits of character having gained them the warm regard and esteem of all with whom they have been associated.

WILLIAM H. DARLING.

No history of Huron county would be complete without special mention of William H. Darling, who for a long period has been closely identified with the public interests of this, his native county. Born in Hartland township on the 25th of April, 1867, he is a son of John B. and Mary E. (Noble) Darling, the former a

native of Northumberland county, England. He came alone to the United States when twenty-seven years of age and settled in New York, where he followed the machinist's trade which he had learned in his native country. Later he went to Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, where he engaged as foreman or master mechanic in the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad shops, while the year 1860 witnessed his arrival in Ohio, locating in Norwalk, where for a time he was employed in the railroad shops. Subsequently, he was compelled to give up this line of activity on account of failing health, and he purchased a farm in Hartland township, where he resided until his death, which occurred in August, 1903. His widow and three children still survive him, the children being: Jennie, now the wife of F. H. Rumsey of North Fairfield; Sate B., a teacher in the Shelbyville, Illinois, schools; and William H., of this review. One daughter, Annie, passed away when five years of age.

Spending the years of his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, William H. Darling attended the district schools in the acquirement of his early education and later supplemented this training by a course at the Western Reserve Normal School at Milan, while he also pursued a course at the Northwestern University at Ada, Ohio. Thus well equipped, he took up the occupation of teaching and for several years was engaged in that capacity in the schools of Huron county, proving a most capable instructor who imparted readily and clearly to others the knowledge he had acquired. Giving up that profession, he took a course of study in the Euclid Avenue Commercial College, at Cleveland, with the idea of entering the business world. The failure of his father's health, however, caused his return to the home farm, where he decided to remain and take charge of his father's interests. He has since continued to make the old homestead his place of residence and has directed his efforts to the further cultivation and improvement of the place, his activity along general agricultural lines meeting with most gratifying and substantial success.

On the 25th of January, 1904, Mr. Darling was united in marriage to Miss Jane Chaffee, a daughter of George W. and Anna (Phillip) Chaffee, of Hartland township, where both parents were born and have always resided. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Darling has been blessed with one daughter, Dorothy B., who is the life and light of the household. Fraternally Mr. Darling is connected with East Townsend Lodge, No. 322, F. & A. M., and also with Olena Tent, No. 58, K. O. T. M., in the affairs of which he is deeply and helpfully interested.

Although Mr. Darling has become well known throughout the locality by reason of the success that he has achieved in his business activities, it is, however, the active part which he has taken in the public affairs of Huron county that has brought him prominently before his fellow citizens and has made him one of the valued representatives of the community. Republican in politics, he has always done all in his power to further the influence of that party in the district and has been a prominent and influential figure in the party councils. For several years, he served as county central committeeman and is constantly being sent as a delegate to the district, county and state conventions. His fellow citizens, recognizing his ability and worth, have frequently called him to office, and for a number of years he served as township clerk and also clerk of the board of education for the township, which positions he still holds. He is also acting as justice of the

peace and was census enumerater for Hartland township in 1890. In 1908, he was the candidate on the republican ticket for county recorder, but with the rest of the ticket was defeated. He had been nominated by acclamation, a very rare occurrence in Huron county politics. He is now serving as notary public and carries on considerable business in that connection. A man of splendid attainments, he performed the duties of each office in such a capable and satisfactory manner, that his efforts reflected honor not only upon himself but also upon his constituents. Progressive in his citizenship, he is an advocate of advancement and improvement in all forms, but he is especially zealous in the matter of good roads and advanced schools, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. His various interests have made his a well rounded nature and he stands today as a splendid type of the high-minded American gentleman, with whom contact means expansion and elevation. Huron county is proud to number him among her native sons

GEORGE W. SHERMAN.

George W. Sherman owns and operates a good farm of sixty-one acres of land in Lyme township, and his business qualifications and his genuine personal worth entitle him to mention with the representative citizens of Huron county. A native of this township, he was born a half mile south of Hunts Corners on the 22d of April, 1861, a son of Samuel and Mary Ann (Carpenter) Sherman, old settlers of this district. The parents were natives of England, the father's birth occurring March 9, 1838, while the mother's natal day was March 20, 1843. Samuel Sherman was but fourteen years of age when he left England with his father, William H. Sherman, and his brother, Joseph, and came to Ohio, locating in this county. The father, however, did not remain in this country, but returned to England, leaving his son Samuel with Alonzo Husted, to whom he was bound out as a farm hand to work until twenty-one years of age, when he was to receive one hundred dollars and two suits of clothes. He worked so diligently and faithfully, however, that at the age of twenty years Mr. Husted released him and offered him the money and clothing. He accepted the latter but left the money with his former employer on interest. He then worked for Luther Avery for eleven dollars per month, until, by earnest toil and careful expenditure, he had saved another one hundred dollars. He then drew his original one hundred dollars from Mr. Husted, with the interest which had accumulated in the meantime, and embarked in business on his own account, renting a farm of Mr. Husted on shares. About this time he married Miss Mary Ann Carpenter and afterward purchased thirty acres of land which now forms a part of the farm owned by his son George W. As the years came and went he was successful in his undertaking and by judicious investments extended his possessions until his home farm consisted of sixty-one acres and he had accumulated other property throughout the county, his holdings today amounting to three hundred acres of land, aside from the tract now owned by the subject of this review. He is a prominent member of the Episcopal church, regulating his life at all



G. W. SHERMAN AND FAMILY

times by its teachings. He now resides, at the age of seventy-one years, in Monroeville, Ohio, but his wife passed away December 25, 1908.

George W. Sherman came to his present home when four years of age and has since lived in this county, spending his boyhood days in the acquirement of an education as a pupil of the district schools. When not busy with his text-books he devoted his time to the tasks that usually fall to the lot of the farm lad and at an early period became familiar with the work of the fields, assisting more fully as his age and strength permitted, so that he was well equipped to take up the work on his own account when, after attaining his majority, he secured the farm upon which he now resides. It consists of sixty-one acres. It is a finely improved property that yields abundant harvests in return for the care and labor expended upon it. He is a progressive, up-to-date farmer, capably managing his business interests, and the success which he has attained ranks him among the representative agriculturists of his township.

Mr. Sherman was married on the 26th of January, 1887, to Miss Florence Sarah Fry, a native of England and a daughter of David and Martha (Button) Fry, also natives of that country, the former born in 1847 and the latter in 1848. Leaving their native land at an early date, they became early settlers in this county, where they still make their home. Mrs. Sherman is the eldest of a family of six children, the family remaining unbroken by the hand of death. The others are Byron W., Daisy S., Roland G., Elizabeth M. and Alice. As the years have come and gone the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman has been blessed with six children, namely, David H., Mildred P., Frank T., Clements G., Blanche G., and Joseph B., all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Sherman holds membership in the Lyme Trinity church, while his fraternal relations are with the Woodmen of the World, Camp No. 40. He also is a member of the Protective Horse Association of Lyme township. He is a member of the school board and has served thereon for several terms. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but he does not seek public office as a reward for party fealty, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his personal affairs. He is, however, public spirited, taking a helpful interest in all matters pertaining to the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the community, while his personal traits of character have gained him the esteem and good will of his fellowmen.

WAKEMAN O. MAYNARD.

Wakeman O. Maynard, of Greenwich township, was born September 21, 1849, in Peru, Huron county, his parents being John G. and Angeline (Osborne) Maynard. Both the Maynard and Osborne families were originally from Tompkins county, New York, and came to Huron county when John G. and Angeline were young people, the latter becoming a teacher in the county schools and following that occupation until marriage. They were farming people, and became prominent and influential in their chosen occupation.

The family of John G. Maynard consisted of five children: Charlotte A., Wakeman O., John T., Ornan A. and Louis, two of whom, Charlotte A. and Louis, are deceased and lie buried in the Edwards Grove cemetery in Ripley township. Here also the mother was laid to rest in the summer of 1885, and the father in the fall of 1887.

Wakeman O. Maynard had no educational privileges or opportunities outside of the district schools of Ripley township, except one term in a select school in Greenwich. He grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting in the usual work and manifold cares of the business, unconsciously adding to a meager school education the experience and handicraft of manual labor.

On September 6, 1886, Mr. Maynard married Miss Almeda Burge, one of the successful and popular teachers of the county, who was a daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Burge. Her death occurred in 1895, and left a vacant place in the wide circle in which she moved, for, during the years she taught, she made many true friends who held her in high esteem. On September 21, 1897, occurred the second marriage of Mr. Maynard, his wife being Miss Isabella Lowrie, a daughter of David and Agnes (Smith) Lowrie, of Cleveland, Ohio. Before her marriage Mrs. Maynard was a teacher of ability and a great favorite of patrons and pupils. To meet her is to meet a cultivated and superior mind, an intelligent and hospitable woman, and to know her is to know a friend and companion.

Mr. Maynard has lived on the farm where he now resides since 1886. It is located one mile northeast of the village of Greenwich, and consists of one hundred and thirty-two acres of well improved land under a high state of cultivation—a farm to be proud of.

A republican in politics, he takes active interest in all public affairs. As a member of the township board of trustees, he has served six years and has shown himself a capable and thorough officer, while his service to the cause of education has been through his membership in the township school board. As a promoter of all public improvements, Mr. Maynard stands well to the front in his township. Yet with the cares of a farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres and his public service, he still finds time to engage in his favorite recreation of hunting and fishing, enjoying them most thoroughly. Both Mr. and Mrs. Maynard are members and active workers in the Methodist church. But their home tells us best, perhaps, of the personality of the occupants—genuinely hospitable, cheerful, pleasant and refined, all blended by that harmonizing influence denominated Christianity.

THEODORE D. SHEPHERD.

Theodore D. Shepherd became widely and prominently known throughout the city of Norwalk as the efficient postmaster during almost two terms, and thus his death, which occurred on November 21, 1904, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. He was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, October 13, 1843, and in June, 1869, was united in marriage to Miss Ella S. Newman, who was born in Norwalk township, October 23, 1844.

After reaching manhood and fitting himself for the responsible duties of a business career, Mr. Shepherd engaged in bookkeeping and the accounting business, following that profession for several years. He was later appointed post-master of Norwalk and gave such efficient and capable service during his first term that he was reappointed but his death occurred prior to the expiration of his second term. In this connection he became well known because of his courteous treatment of the patrons of the office and his capability in discharging his official duties.

His political allegiance was given to the republican party, to which he gave staunch support. A highly respected citizen, his death caused deep regret not only to the members of his own immediate household, but also among his many friends and acquaintances.

As above stated, Mrs. Shepherd was born in Huron county, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Newman. Mr. Newman was engaged in the mercantile business throughout his active business career, handling dry goods, books, stationery, etc. He was a communicant of the Episcopal church, to which he gave loyal support, while for thirty-five years he acted as superintendent of the Sunday school. His death occurred when he was sixty-seven years of age, and thus passed away one of the highly respected and well known citizens of Norwalk, for he had taken a deep interest in many public movements, having served throughout a long period as a member of the board of education. He was also active in the establishment of the Children's Home at this place and did all in his power toward the advancement and promotion of all worthy measures, giving freely of his time and means. His political support was given to the republican party.

Mrs. Shepherd spent her girlhood under the parental roof and acquired her education in the schools of her native city. It was in June, 1869, that she gave her hand in marriage to Theodore D. Shepherd, and she became the mother of a son and daughter; Charles V., who was born June 15, 1871; and Cornie May, who was born December 6, 1872, and on the 15th of November, 1894, gave her hand in marriage to I. W. Goodell. Mrs. Shepherd takes great pride in the fact that she is a Daughter of the Revolution, while her religious faith is indicated by her membership in the Episcopal church. Having spent her entire life in the city of Norwalk, she has a large circle of friends, who esteem her for her many excellent traits of character and for the hearty welcome which they receive in her hospitable home.

ANDREW JACKSON BLACKMAN.

Andrew Jackson Blackman, the proprietor of Melrose Farm and one of the most prominent and influential men of Clarksfield township, was born December 10, 1830, in New London township, Huron county, the son of Simeon and Wealthy (Barret) Blackman. Both parents were natives of New York, but the father came to this state in 1815, with his brother Joel, his family following later. On the journey, he and his brother learned when they reached Buffalo that peace had been declared ending the war of 1812 and that the city of Buffalo itself was to a large extent wrecked by fire, incurred through the war. Continuing their journey they came direct to Florence township, Huron county, and the next year Simeon lo-

cated in New London township, where he bought one hundred and ten acres of land, all timber, but with a log cabin upon it put up by the previous owner. Mr. Blackman immediately set to work to clear the land and to put up a more substantial and permanent habitation. He also set out an orchard. The Barrett family subsequently became residents of Ohio, and the daughter, on one of her visits to her relatives here, met Mr. Blackman and was married to him on the 21st of April, 1821. In the course of the many years of hardships that followed she proved a most indispensable helpmeet. Mr. Blackman was a man who won success in all of his undertakings, and in addition to his farming engaged in the manufacture of potash, becoming a large producer of this substance and in the production of pearl ash also. New London township was his home until 1833, when he removed to Russia township, Lorain county, living there for two years. He removed to a farm in the vicinity of Huron village, but the country there was new and unhealthy, and seemed to offer but few chances of advancement, and after two years Mr. Blackman removed to Vermilion township, Erie county, where he bought a farm. After two years he traded this, in 1839, to Isaac Van Houton, for the farm in Clarksfield township that was his home until his death, which occurred May 7, 1864. His wife survived him more than a quarter of a century and when death called her, December 15, 1891, she was buried by her husband in Butterfield cemetery, New London township. The couple were blessed with a family of eight children, two of whom died in infancy. Those who grew to maturity were Orinda, Elvira A., Wealthy A., Andrew J., Mary A. and George W.

Andrew J. Blackman is the only member of this family now living in Huron county. He grew up on his father's farm, which was his home until his twenty-first year. His education was derived from the district schools of the county, supplemented by a term at Oberlin College. All his life he has been devoted to farming and two years after his marriage, in 1857, he purchased a small farm, which has since been incorporated in his present acres. On this he has prosecuted a general line of farming and has also engaged in stock raising and feeding. In both of these pursuits he has been very successful. He owns at present something over two hundred and sixty acres and at one time owned considerably more. He is also a man who has given a great deal of time to the service of the people and has been singularly active in political affairs. For a long period he filled the offices of township trustee, of justice of the peace and road supervisor, and it is only recently that he has not held office of some kind. He cast his first vote for Zachary Taylor in 1852 and was later a consistent republican until recent years, when he has inclined somewhat to independence in politics. He has always kept well informed on political issues and is able to discuss questions intelligently. He investigates for himself and, as the right appears to him, so directs his course. For a number of years he was a most active member of the Grange, but lately he has not been able to give it so much time.

On the 1st of September, 1855, Mr. Blackman was united in marriage to Miss Emeline Smith, a daughter of Sherman and Caroline (Knapp) Smith, of Huron county. Her step-father, Simeon Hoyt, Mrs. Smith's second husband came from Connecticut to Huron county in 1817 as a surveyor assisting his brother, Comfort Hoyt, of the Firelands, and with him was the first settler in Clarksfield township, where he became very prominent as years passed on. Two children were

born to Mr. and Mrs. Blackman, Sherman F. and Emma Dell. The latter married Charles H. Burrows, a prosperous farmer of this township. The son has lost his wife and now lives with his father at the old homestead. Mrs. Blackman died June 14, 1909, and is buried in the Methodist Episcopal cemetery of Clarksfield township.

Mr. Blackman has never been a church member, but good morals have ever distinguished his career and the years of his life have borne witness to strong principles and have had a noble influence upon the community in whose midst he lived. The Blackman home is perhaps the most pretentious in Clarksfield township, is a large brick building that in appointments and conveniences compares well with the best homes anywhere. A large library discriminatingly supplied with the best current and standard literature, is the pride of its owner. It is a home in the truest sense of the word and most gracious hospitality is ever extended to the many friends who visit there.

JAMES HENRY HAKES.

James Henry Hakes, the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and eleven acres in Bronson and Fairfield townships, has recently put aside the active work of the fields and is now living retired in North Fairfield. His birth occurred in Bronson township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 1st of December, 1844, his parents being Norman S. and Adlia M. (Fox) Hakes, both of whom were natives of New York. In 1840 they made their way to this county, taking up their abode in Bronson township. They reared a family of five children, namely: James Henry, of this review; Norman William; Samuel Albert; Mrs. Annette Mycrantz; and Mrs. Martha L. Kellogg, a resident of Chicago, Illinois.

James Henry Hakes acquired his education in the common schools of his home neighborhood and remained under the parental roof until four years after his marriage. He then took up his abode on a farm of one hundred and eleven acres in Bronson and Fairfield townships, which is still in his possession and to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his attention until 1909. In his farming operations he followed practical and progressive methods and annually gathered rich harvests which found a ready sale on the market. He likewise has a creditable military record, having enlisted as a soldier of the Union army in September, 1863, as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered out on the 9th of September, 1864, and during his entire term of service did garrison duty in Virginia, guarding the fortifications between Washington and Alexandria. He now makes his home in North Fairfield and is well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as a most substantial and representative citizen.

In 1868 Mr. Hakes was united in marriage to Miss Isabelle Holmes, a daughter of William and Isabelle Holmes, of Fairfield township. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes had a family of seven children, as follows: Richard, Jane, Catherine, Mary, William, Isabelle and James. Mrs. Isabelle Hakes passed away on the 28th of May, 1889, leaving two children, Harry H. and Loftus N. For his second wife Mr. Hakes

chose Mrs. Ellen M. (Muir) White, to whom he was joined in wedlock in June, 1898.

Mr. Hakes holds membership relations with the Grand Army of the Republic. He has a very wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the county in which his entire life has been spent, his upright character and sterling worth having gained him an enviable place in the regard of many friends.

WILLIAM BARBER.

William Barber, who for many years has been successfully identified with general agricultural and stock-raising interests in Wakeman township, was born in Wiltshire, England, on the 16th of January, 1828, his parents being Edward and Jane Barber. In the year 1850 they crossed the Atlantic to the United States, coming direct to Wakeman township, Huron county, Ohio, where they joined their son William, who had made the voyage to the new world in 1848. Edward Barber, the father of our subject, was a cabinet-maker by trade but after coming to this country turned his attention to farming. Unto him and his wife were born six children, namely: Mary Ann, Sarah, Matilda, Elizabeth, William and Edward. All are now deceased with the exception of William, whose name initiates this review.

William Barber obtained his education in the parish schools of his native land and early in life learned the cabinet-maker's trade, working at that occupation in England until he set sail for the United States in 1848. After landing in this country he first went to Summit county, Ohio, where he remained for a year, being employed at his trade. On the expiration of that period he came to Wakeman township, this county, and bought twenty acres of timber land, which he eventually developed into a good farming property. He has given his attention to general agricultural pursuits almost exclusively throughout his entire business career, though for a few years he also worked at the carpenter's trade to some extent. As time passed by and his financial resources increased he added to his holdings by additional purchase until at one time he owned two hundred acres of rich and arable land, having cleared the timber from one hundred acres. He cut down and burned enough good timber to have made a fortune at present prices. In addition to cultivating the various cereals best adapted to soil and climate he has also been engaged in the raising of stock, both branches of his business returning to him a gratifying annual income. The neat and thrifty appearance of his farm bespeaks his industry and systematic methods. His crops are of the best, his stock is comfortably housed and in fact everything about the place indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

On the 6th of May, 1853, Mr. Barber was united in marriage to Miss Hannah E. Stiles, a daughter of Henry and Sarah Stiles, of Clarksfield township. The Stiles family were among the early settlers of Huron county and took a prominent part in community affairs. Mr. and Mrs. Barber are the parents of eight children, as follows: Anna E.; Frank M., a resident of Chicago; Ella, the wife



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM BARBER

of Charles Peck, of Viola, Illinois; Edward, living in Delaware; Jane, at home; Henry, who follows farming in Wakeman township; Ida, also at home; and William C., who makes his home at Lorain, Ohio. On the 6th of May, 1909, Mr. and Mrs. Barber celebrated their fifty-sixth wedding anniversary, on which happy occasion all of their children, as well as a large number of friends and acquaintances, were with them.

Politically Mr. Barber has always given his allegiance to the republican party, casting his first presidential vote for Fremont in 1856. Though not active in politics as an office seeker, he has always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day and served in the position of township trustee and also as a school director for many years. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which his wife and children are also identified. He has always been active in church and Sunday-school work and was instrumental in organizing a Sunday school in the local school-house of which he was superintendent for many years. He is public-spirited to a marked degree and well merits the esteem and respect which are uniformly accorded him, being a high-minded gentleman of the old school whose entire life has been characterized by industry and integrity. He has endeavored to exemplify the teaching of the Golden Rule in his daily life and his influence is always found on the side of right and progress. The worthy poor find in him a sympathetic and helpful friend. He has now passed the eighty-first milestone on life's journey and for sixty years of this time has been a resident of Huron county, within the borders of which he is most widely and favorably known. Coming to the new world in early manhood, he has felt that the country fully justified his expectations and in this land, where labor is unhampered by caste or class, he steadily advanced and as a result of his persistent energy and unabating industry gained a place among the substantial and representative citizens of his community.

J. ANDREW MISSLER.

J. Andrew Missler is the owner of one hundred and thirty-three acres of rich and productive land in Sherman township, eighty acres of which is comprised in one tract and the remaining fifty-three acres in another. He has been a resident of Sherman township from his birth to the present time, his natal day being February 11, 1872. His parents, Andrew and Caroline (Meyers) Missler, were natives of Germany but became acquainted in the United States and were married in this country. It was in 1854 that the paternal grandfather, Francis Missler, brought his wife and children to the new world, the family home being established in Huron county, Ohio, where he continued to reside until called to his final rest on the 19th of March, 1871. The demise of his wife occurred six weeks later. Unto Andrew and Caroline (Meyers) Missler were born the following children: J. Andrew, of this review; Catherine; Mary; Joseph; John; Jacob, deceased; Fred; Otto; and Clara, who has passed away.

J. Andrew Missler attended school in Sherman township until he had attained the age of fifteen years and then gave his entire attention to the work of the home farm, assisting his father in its cultivation until twenty-eight years of age. He then bought eighty acres of land from his father and subsequently purchased another tract of fifty-three acres from him, so that his holdings now embrace one hundred and thirty-three acres, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devotes his time and energies with excellent results. He annually garners good crops and has gained favorable recognition as one of the representatives and progressive agriculturists of his native county.

On the 7th of June, 1898, Mr. Missler was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Diehm, a daughter of Phillip and Barbara Diehm, of Sherman township. The father, who followed farming throughout his active business career, is now deceased. His children were seven in number, namely: Mary, John, Barbara, Frank, Elizabeth, Caroline and Anna. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Missler have been born five children: Lenus, Clem, Celia, Romie and Phillip Peter.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Missler has cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the democracy. He and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church and are people of the highest respectability, enjoying in almost unqualified measure the high esteem and kindly consideration of all with whom they have come in contact.

JOHN PARROTT.

Industry, honesty, frugality—the three golden keys which unlock the door to success—used by John Parrott, of Ripley township, he finds himself hale and hearty at the age of eighty-eight years, with broad, rich acres and with the goodwill and respect of a host of friends. He is of English birth, born April 7, 1821, and the son of William and Hannah (Lee) Parrott, of Somersetshire. His parents with their nine children, came to Ripley township, July 28, 1841, and opened up a farm. The mother passed away six years later in September, 1847, and the father in January, 1856. The children in order of birth were: Mary, John, Charlotte, Frederick, William, Hannah, Angeline, Eliza and George. Of these, John, Charlotte, Hannah and Eliza still survive.

John Parrott, now one of the wealthiest landowners of Greenwich, said that he landed in Huron county with "one cent in my pocket, with which I bought a cracker." So with the cracker in his stomach and a large and enthusiastic faith in his heart, he went out and conquered the dragon of adversity. Hiring to a farmer for eight dollars per month, he began the battle of life. He married at the age of twenty-six, and in 1850 left home and friends to seek fortune in the California gold fields. The overland journey of six months, with all its attendant thrilling experiences, brought him to the scene of action. But, like many others, the steady employment at large wages appealed to him more than the uncertainty of mining. For a year he drove a three-yoke team of oxen at two hundred dollars per month. Then family and civilization drew him back to the Buckeye state, returning by the

isthmus route to find more gold in the soil of Greenwich township than he ever saw in California.

The secret of Mr. Parrott's success is "work persistently and consistently performed." Saving a little at eight dollars per month, a little more at two hundred dollars, but always a portion of what he earned and investing as opportunity offered. That is the story. The six hundred broad acres of rich Ripley soil came to Mr. Parrott through that channel. General farming and stock raising have been his life-time occupations.

Voting the democratic ticket consistently each recurring election day, and attending and liberally supporting the Presbyterian church, to which his family belongs, has constituted the extent of his political and religious life. He is a citizen whose influence gives strength to the community, because of the fine example of his life.

John Parrott was married June 18, 1847, to Miss Jane Harkness, whose mother had the distinction of being the first white woman settling in Fairfield township. She was the daughter of Amos and Martha (Samples) Harkness, who came to Fairfield township from Pennsylvania, in 1816. The mother died in February, 1860, and the father in July, 1869. To Mr. and Mrs. Parrott were born: Charlotte A.; James P., now deceased; William H., also deceased; and Frank, a farmer of Huron county.

JAMES F. MAYNE, M. D.

Dr. James F. Mayne, who has been successfully engaged in the practice of medicine in Olena since 1897, was born in Pennsylvania, April 21, 1860, a son of John and Susan (Heggee) Mayne, the former born in the Keystone state in 1829, while the birth of the latter occurred February 22, 1831. John Mayne engaged in farming as a life work and took a very active interest in politics. He was called by his fellow citizens to fill a number of township offices. He was a republican in politics. His death occurred in September, 1901, but he is still survived by his wife, who has reached the advanced age of seventy-eight.

James F. Mayne, born on the home farm near New Castle, in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, was reared to agricultural pursuits. He acquired his education in the State Normal at Edinboro, and after completing his studies, engaged in teaching for seven years. In the meantime, having decided upon the practice of medicine as a life work and having saved a sum of money sufficient to prepare himself for this end, he then entered the medical department of the University of Wooster, Ohio, where he was a student for two terms. He spent a year in Pittsburg, in the meantime, graduating from the medical department of the University of Wooster July 24, 1889. Having thus carefully prepared for the practice of medicine he located in Edinburg, Pennsylvania, where he remained one year, and from that place he went to Lottsville, that state, where he practiced seven years. Believing, however, that Olena offered a better field for his labors, he came to this place in 1897, and in the intervening years has built up an extensive practice, which extends over a radius of several miles, his services being in demand in many of the

best homes in this district. He keeps two horses and an automobile to make his trips and is thus able to answer all calls promptly.

On the 11th of September, 1896, Dr. Mayne was united in marriage to Miss L. Adelaide Wynn, who was born in New York state, May 18, 1865, a daughter of J. I. Wynn, of Limestone, New York. Their marriage has been blessed with an interesting little daughter, Helen Marie, who was born March 4, 1899. The Doctor holds membership in the Huron County Medical Society and thus keeps in touch with the advance made by the profession. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Presbyterian church. A republican in politics, he finds little opportunity to devote to public measures as his time is fully occupied with the demands of his practice. He is highly esteemed in Olena and vicinity, not only as a professional man but also as a citizen and friend of humanity who lives for the good he can do to his fellowman.

FRED SEEL.

Fred Seel is a prosperous and energetic agriculturist, residing on and owning a farm of one hundred and forty-six acres in Lyme township, while he also has another tract of one hundred and eighty-eight acres in the vicinity, lying partly in Sherman township. His birth occurred in Germany on the 1st of October, 1855, his parents being John P. and Dorothy (Gap) Seel, whom he accompanied on their emigration to the new world about 1870. Coming direct to this county, they took up their abode in Lyme township with their son William, who had crossed the Atlantic about a year before. Both Mr. and Mrs. Seel continued worthy and respected residents of this community until called to their final rest, passing away at the ages of seventy and ninety years respectively. Their family numbered seven children, namely: William; Henrietta; Philipena and Philip, all of whom are deceased; Pauline; Peter, and Fred, of this review.

The last named has made his home in Lyme township since his arrival in the United States when a lad of fourteen years. His education had been begun in his native land and he further continued his studies in the schools of Lyme township through two winter terms. On putting aside his text-books he gave his undivided attention to the work of general farming and has been successfully connected with that line of activity throughout his entire business career. In 1892 he purchased the farm whereon he now resides from Asa Haywood and as the years have gone by has brought the property under a high state of cultivation and improvement. He erected a commodious and attractive residence and the labor he has bestowed upon his place has made it a well improved and valuable farm, which in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his careful supervision. He has led an active, useful and honorable life and now owns three hundred and thirty-four acres of valuable land in Huron county as the result of his business ability and judicious investments.

On the 29th of February, 1888, Mr. Seel was united in marriage to Miss Dora M. Bolenbacher, who was born in Sherman township, Huron county, December 13, 1857, a daughter of John P. Bolenbacher, of Lyme township. Unto Mr. and Mrs.

Seel have been born three children: Rosa, Edna and Philip, all at home. Mr. Seel is a prominent and valued member of the Lutheran church of Lyme township, for the erection of which he contributed liberally and in which he has served as trustee, while for fifteen years he has been secretary. In the community where they reside both he and his wife are much esteemed as people of genuine worth, manifesting those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard.

JOHN A. STRUTTON.

John A. Strutton, closely identified with the banking business in Norwalk since 1889, is now secretary of the Home Savings & Loan Association. In a logical course of events he has risen to his present position of responsibility, his successive promotions having followed as the direct result of persistent energy and activity and thoroughness in fully acquainting himself with the field of labor which he chose as his life work. A native son of Norwalk, he was born September 19, 1866.

His father, Louis de Hayes Strutton, was born in London, England, January 16, 1821, and came to the United States in 1849, settling at Milan, Ohio. He was first employed on the Toledo, Norwalk & Cleveland Railroad and as an expert accountant opened their books. In 1850 he came to Norwalk and studied law, being admitted to the bar in 1855. He then continuously engaged in practice up to the time of his death which occurred in April, 1901. He held various offices pertaining to the city's welfare and progress, being for some time a member of the city council and also of the school board. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and few men of the laity were better qualified to speak authoritatively upon the political problems of the day. He regarded the profession of law, however, as his chief life work and his devotion to his clients' interests was proverbial. He gave to those whom he represented in a legal capacity the services of great talent, unwearied industry and comprehensive learning but he never forgot there were certain things due to the court, to his own self respect and above all to justice and a righteous administration of the law which neither the zeal of an advocate nor the pleasure of success would permit him to disregard. He wedded Eliza Wiles, who was born in Ramsgate, England, in which country they were married in 1846. Their family numbered eight children, four sons and four daughters including William Strutton, who now resides in Bellevue, Ohio; Sarah, now Mrs. Taber; and Miss Lucy Strutton, who is librarian of the public library at Norwalk. These three together with our subject are the representatives of the family in Huron county.

John A. Strutton acquired his early education in the public schools of Norwalk and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Kenyon College. Having studied law he was admitted to the bar in 1889 but has never practiced. He has always given his attention to banking interests, with which he became identified in 1889 as teller in the First National Bank, thus continuing for twelve years. He then helped to organize the City Banking Company and became its assistant cashier while

at the same time he was treasurer of the Home Savings & Loan Company. On the death of O. W. Williams, secretary of the latter institution, Mr. Strutton was elected secretary and has continued to serve in that capacity to the present time. He has bent his energies to the careful and correct solution of financial problems and in the management of affairs of the Home Savings & Loan Association, which come in his department, he has contributed in substantial measure to the success of the enterprise.

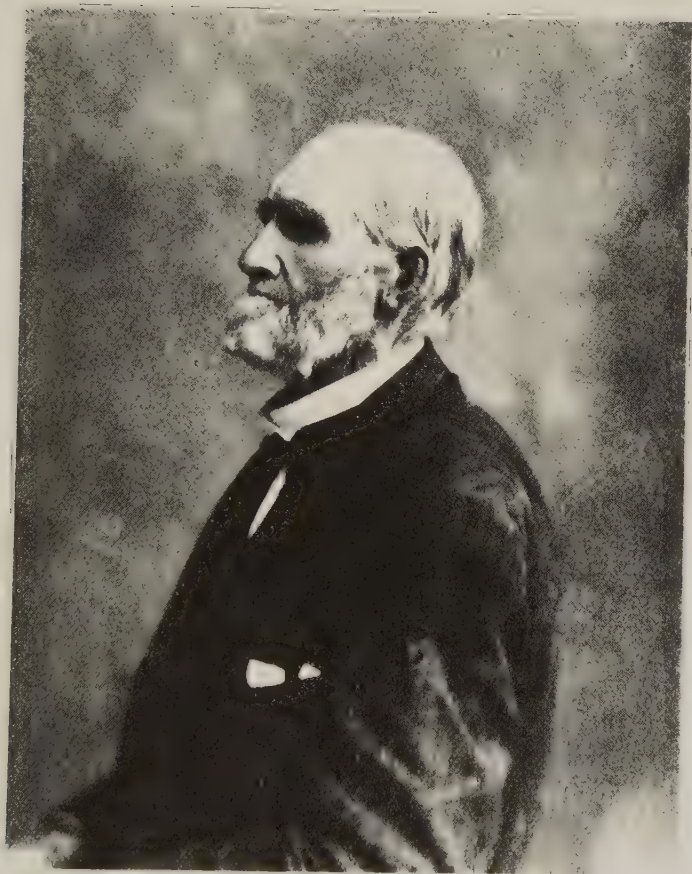
On the 15th of June, 1897, Mr. Strutton was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Wooster Boalt, a daughter of Captain Frederick H. Boalt, a native of Huron county, who was a veteran of the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Strutton lost one child in infancy and they have two children living, Charlotte Frederica, born October 16, 1906, and Louis de Hayes, born July 29, 1909. The parents hold membership in St. Paul's Episcopal church, of which he is a vestryman and treasurer. He is also one of the trustees and members of Whittlesy Academy, of which his father was a charter member. He is also the treasurer of the Young Men's Reading Room Association and belongs to the Delta Kappa Epsilon college fraternity. In all matters relative to the public welfare he stands in the foremost rank of those who seek improvement and progress for he has carefully studied the purposes and problems of life and realizes that above all money considerations is that of character building and of doing for others.

THOMAS CONE.

Thomas Cone, who is the oldest resident of Monroeville, has long been numbered among the most prominent citizens of this county. His birth occurred in Trumbull county, Ohio, on the 10th of February, 1819, his parents being Lester and Stella A. Cone. In the year 1830 they came to Ridgefield township, Huron county, locating on the farm which has since remained the home of our subject. The father was greatly interested in race horses and owned a number of fine specimens of the noble steed, while his son later owned the famous Joe Hoker. In 1835 he was shot and killed at Sandusky, Ohio, by Bob Hutchinson, of Kentucky, during an argument about the money which the latter owed Mr. Cone.

Throughout his active business career Thomas Cone has given his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, meeting with a gratifying and well deserved measure of prosperity in that line of activity. He has a highly improved and valuable farm of two hundred and thirty-two acres in Ridgefield township, lying partly in Monroeville, and the substantial and commodious brick residence thereon was erected by him in 1866. He also made the brick used in its construction. Like his father, he has always been interested in race horses and is widely recognized as one of the leading and representative citizens of Huron county.

Mr. Cone has been married twice. In 1842 he wedded Miss Henrietta Smith, who passed away in 1857, leaving two children, Lester and Charles E. Lester, who served as a soldier of the Union army during the Civil war, died at the



THOMAS CONE

Soldiers' Home in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Charles E. is married and makes his home at Orange, New Jersey. On the 13th of October, 1858, Thomas Cone was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Hathaway, whose demise occurred on the 15th of April, 1908. Unto them were born two children, namely: Thomas H., who is deceased; and Henrietta, a resident of Kansas City, Missouri.

In his political views Mr. Cone has always been a strong and inflexible republican and for two terms capably served his fellow townsmen in the position of assessor. Though not affiliated with any church, he has always endeavored to do unto others as he would have them do unto him and has been a worthy exemplar of the Golden Rule. He is most widely and favorably known throughout the community where he has now made his home for almost eight decades and receives the respect and veneration which should always be accorded one who has traveled thus far on life's journey and whose career has ever been upright and honorable.

ALBERT SAMUEL PRENTISS.

Albert Samuel Prentiss enjoys the well earned distinction of being what the public calls a self-made man. With limited opportunities in youth, thrown upon his own resources from an early age, he has made continuous progress and upon the foundation of physical and mental activity has built his success. He was born in Monroeville, Ohio, April 2, 1861, and is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of this part of the state. His grandfather, Jonathan Prentiss, arrived in this county when the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun and established his home in Lyme township, where he followed the occupation of farming for a long period but eventually retired from active life. He died in Monroeville at a very advanced age. His son, Samuel Prentiss, was a native of this county and died in 1861. His wife bore the maiden name of Lois J. Brown and was a daughter of Albert Brown, one of the old pioneers of Monroeville. He was born May 6, 1801, came to this county about 1820 and for more than the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten continued his residence here, passing away on the 27th of May, 1894. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emma Jane Bloomer, was born May 18, 1808, and died October 9, 1888. She was a representative of one of the families that took up the work of development and improvement here in pioneer times.

Albert S. Prentiss, an only child, is indebted to the schools of Monroeville for his early educational privileges. His father died before the birth of the son and at an early age the boy faced the necessity of providing for his own support, but it is a well known fact that it is under the stimulus of need and in the face of opposition that the best and strongest in men are brought out and developed, and Albert S. Prentiss soon became self-reliant as well as self-supporting, and learned many lessons of value concerning life, its possibilities and its purposes. He first turned his attention to the printing business in Monroeville and after learning the trade removed to Norwalk in 1879 and became connected with the Norwalk Chronicle,

which he represented in various capacities for five years. In 1885 he became associated with Mr. Laning in the printing business and for many years has been treasurer of the Laning Printing Company, thus being well known as a representative of the business life of Norwalk.

Mr. Prentiss has always taken an active part in public affairs, realizing the obligations and duties as well as the privileges of citizenship. To this end he has stood for good government, for substantial progress and practical reform. For two terms, or four years, he was a member of the city council. He was also a member of the board of water works for two terms and while acting as a member of the board was made a member of the building committee, having charge of the construction of the new water works of Norwalk. He was also a member of the board of public service for three years and for ten years has been secretary of the public library. His labors have been far-reaching in their scope and influence and in the position of leadership he has done not a little to promote the best interests of the city.

On the 14th of October, 1884, Mr. Prentiss was united in marriage to Miss Ida D. Gilson who died in 1890. Later he wedded Florence N. Ruggles, a daughter of A. J. and Thekla A. (Lewis) Ruggles, who were of an old pioneer family of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Prentiss have one daughter, Corinne Florence, born in Norwalk, September 28, 1898. He and his family occupy a handsome new residence on West Main street.

His fraternal relations are with the Masons and in the craft he has attained the Knight Templar degree. He also belongs to the Royal Arcanum and the National Union and is a member of the Episcopal church. He is likewise a member of the Whittlesy Academy, and a director of the Firelands Historical Society while his political allegiance is stanchly given to the republican party. What he has accomplished represents the wise use of time, talents and opportunities and indicates the chances which are open to the young man in this country where usefulness constitutes the path to public honor and prominence.

ABEL C. MILLER.

Abel C. Miller, one of the well known, industrious and enterprising farmers of Hartland township who is meeting with success in his agricultural pursuits, has also figured prominently in the public affairs of the community in which he has resided for a number of years, and his efforts have been potent elements in the progress and improvement of the township. One of Ohio's native sons, he was born in Jefferson township, Knox county, on the 21st of September, 1840, his parents being Hiram and Priscilla (Clark) Miller, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Representatives of the Miller family have been identified with the interests of the state from early pioneer days, the grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Miller, who was born in Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia, having come to Knox county, Ohio, in 1812. The Clarks also came from the Keystone state, and both families were very active in the early work of improvement and transformation carried on in the pioneer days of Ohio, coming in 1818. They were adherents

of the Quaker belief and were citizens of the highest type. Hiram Miller, the father of our subject, acquired a good education in spite of the limited opportunities then offered and was considered a fine grammarian and mathematician. He taught school for some years in Knox county and later became a landowner, also engaging to some extent in farming. He was a stalwart republican, deeply interested in all matters of public moment, and passed away in 1856, at the age of forty-five years, after casting his vote for John C. Fremont.

Abel C. Miller, who was reared upon his father's farm, attended the district schools in the acquirement of his education, and when not engaged with his textbooks he assisted his father in the work of the fields, early learning lessons of great value in the school of experience.

After completing his studies he engaged in teaching for several years, being thus occupied during the winter months, while during the summer seasons he carried on general agricultural pursuits. An interruption in his business came, however, in the spring of 1864, when he enlisted as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Forty-second Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and for one hundred days he served with the Army of the Potomac, experiencing all of the hardships and privation which that army, under General Grant, was compelled to endure. When mustered out he returned home with an excellent military record.

After his return home Mr. Miller again took up his former occupations of teaching and farming and was thus engaged until his marriage, which occurred on the 19th of November, 1869, the lady of his choice being Miss Martha J. Norick, a daughter of Hezekiah and Mary (Sell) Norick. Mrs. Miller was one of eleven children born unto her parents, who originally came from Pennsylvania and, arriving in Harrison county, Ohio, at a very early date, were numbered among the pioneers of this state. Subsequently they removed to Knox county and still later to Richland county, where both passed away. After his marriage Mr. Miller removed to Richland county, where he resided for four years, and in 1874 he came to Hartland township, Huron county, purchasing the farm upon which he has since lived. He carries on general agricultural pursuits and is progressive and up-to-date in his methods, and his untiring industry and well directed energy have proven the salient characteristics in the prosperity which he now enjoys.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller has been blessed with six children, five of whom still survive, namely: William E., who is married and resides in Massillon; Hiram C., who is also married and follows farming in Townsend township; Mary, the wife of Charles Robbins, of Hartland township; Emma F., who wedded Frederick Bedford and resides in Townsend township: and Harriet, still under the parental roof.

Although he has gained a creditable degree of success in his business activities, it is as a prominent figure in public affairs that Mr. Miller has become well known throughout the community. In politics a life-long republican, he has been active and influential in the local party ranks and for many years he was a member of the township republican executive committee, serving at various times as a delegate to district and county conventions. He has also been called to offices of trust and responsibility, the duties of which he performed at all times in a manner which reflected honor upon himself and credit upon his constituents. In the fall of 1900 he was elected county commissioner of Huron county and served six years, being

reelected in 1903. He served as justice of the peace of Hartland township for fifteen years and was also township trustee and member of the board of education for many years. He is a splendid type of the true American citizen whose influence is always upon the side of progress, reform and improvement, and he has ever done all in his power to bring about better conditions. While a member of the board of county commissioners he was very active and helpful in the matter of road building and accomplished a great amount of good along this line.

He is a member of Townsend Post, No. 414, G. A. R., and is an active factor in its affairs. Although he does not hold membership in any special denomination, he is, nevertheless, a firm believer in the church and its influence for good in the community, and he never withholds his support from any matter which has for its object the material, political, intellectual and moral development and growth.

WILLIAM BARNES.

William Barnes is numbered among the enterprising and progressive farmers of Townsend township, where he owns a fine tract of land of seventy acres. He was born near London, England, November 24, 1848, a son of George and Sarah (Eath) Barnes, who emigrated with their family to the United States in 1852 and established their home in Cleveland, Ohio. There the father sought employment, working at anything that would bring to him an honest living for himself and family. Prior to coming to the new world he had engaged in farming on a small scale. On leaving Cleveland he removed to Camden, where he spent two years and on the expiration of that period he located on a farm in Clarksfield township, where he remained two years. He then took up his abode upon a farm in Wakeman township and continued agricultural pursuits there until his demise in July, 1895. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, seven sons and one daughter: William, Charles, Thomas, King A., Elizabeth, Edward, George and Frederick, and these with the mother still survive.

William Barnes, the eldest of the family, did not enjoy very liberal educational advantages, as, the family being in somewhat straitened circumstances, his services were needed on the home farm, so that he was permitted to attend school only a few weeks during the winter months and it was not until he had reached the age of eighteen years that he attended the Wakeman school for a full year. Since reaching mature years, however, he has added to his knowledge by reading and investigation. During the summer months he assisted in the labor of the home farm, doing a man's work in the fields at an age when most boys are acquiring their education or enjoying the pleasures of life. In the winter months he worked in the woods, preparing the fuel to supply the household needs and comforts.

Mr. Barnes eventually started out in life on his own account and from his earnings saved the money that enabled him to purchase his present tract of seventy acres, located in Townsend township. He established a home of his own by his marriage on the 26th of February, 1876, to Miss Emily Westfall and on the 9th of March following they began their domestic life in the house that Mr. Barnes had prepared for his bride. He then began work in earnest and has continued to

follow farming to the present time, his place being now one of the rich and highly cultivated properties of his section of Huron county.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Barnes has been blessed with five children: Anna R.; Cora, now the wife of William Sheffield, of Toledo, Ohio; Mary, Walter E., who is married and makes his home in Wakeman township; and William C., who is also married and resides in Townsend township. Fully realizing his own lack of advantages he resolved that his children should receive an education suited to the demands of the time, that they might start out in life well equipped for the eager, strenuous service of this exacting age, and therefore all have graduated from either the Collins or Wakeman high schools, while subsequently the daughters were given the advantages of Oberlin College.

Mr. Barnes is a republican in politics and is well informed on all public questions. Although he has frequently been urged by his fellow townsmen to accept public office he would never consent to do so, with the exception of filling the position of road supervisor. He has also been a member of the township school board for several years and takes a deep and active interest in the schools, that his own and other children might be benefited. He and his family are members of the Wakeman Congregational church, Mr. Barnes having joined the society forty years ago. He has always been active in church and Sunday school work. Public spirited in an eminent degree, he favors all legitimate public movements and is numbered among the enterprising and substantial farmers of Townsend township and Huron county.

JOSEPH MISSLER.

Joseph Missler is an enterprising and progressive farmer of Sherman township, owning and operating ninety acres of land. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Sherman township on the 20th of August, 1876. His parents, Andrew and Caroline (Meyers) Missler, were both born in Germany. The father was but a small boy when he accompanied his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Missler, on their emigration to the United States in 1854, the family home being first established in Adams county, Ohio. At the end of a year, however, they took up their abode in Huron county, where the family has since been represented. Francis Missler, the grandfather of our subject, was called to his final rest on the 19th of March, 1871, and six weeks later his wife also passed away. Unto Andrew and Caroline (Meyers) Missler were born the following children: J. Andrew; Catherine; Mary; Joseph, of this review; John; Jacob, deceased; Fred; Otto; and Clara, who is deceased.

In his youthful days Joseph Missler attended the schools of his native township and on putting aside his text-books, at the age of seventeen years, turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, working by the month as a farm hand. The work of the fields has always claimed his time and energies and in this line of activity he has met with well deserved and commendable success, being now the owner of a rich and productive tract of land of ninety acres in Sherman township.

On the 7th of June, 1904, Mr. Missler was united in marriage to Miss Nora Miller, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Seisley) Miller, who were farming peo-

ple of Seneca county, Ohio. The father was a native of Germany but the mother was born in this country. Mrs. Missler was one of a family of eleven children, her brothers and sisters being as follows: Rosa, George, Mary, Charles, Caroline, Fred, Anna, Joseph, Ottilla and Otto.

Mr. Missler gives his political support to the democratic party and while he keeps well informed on the political progress of the country, he has never been active as an office seeker, preferring to give his undivided time and attention to his private interests. Both he and his wife are consistent and devoted members of the Catholic church. He has always made his home in this county and his upright and honorable life commands the respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

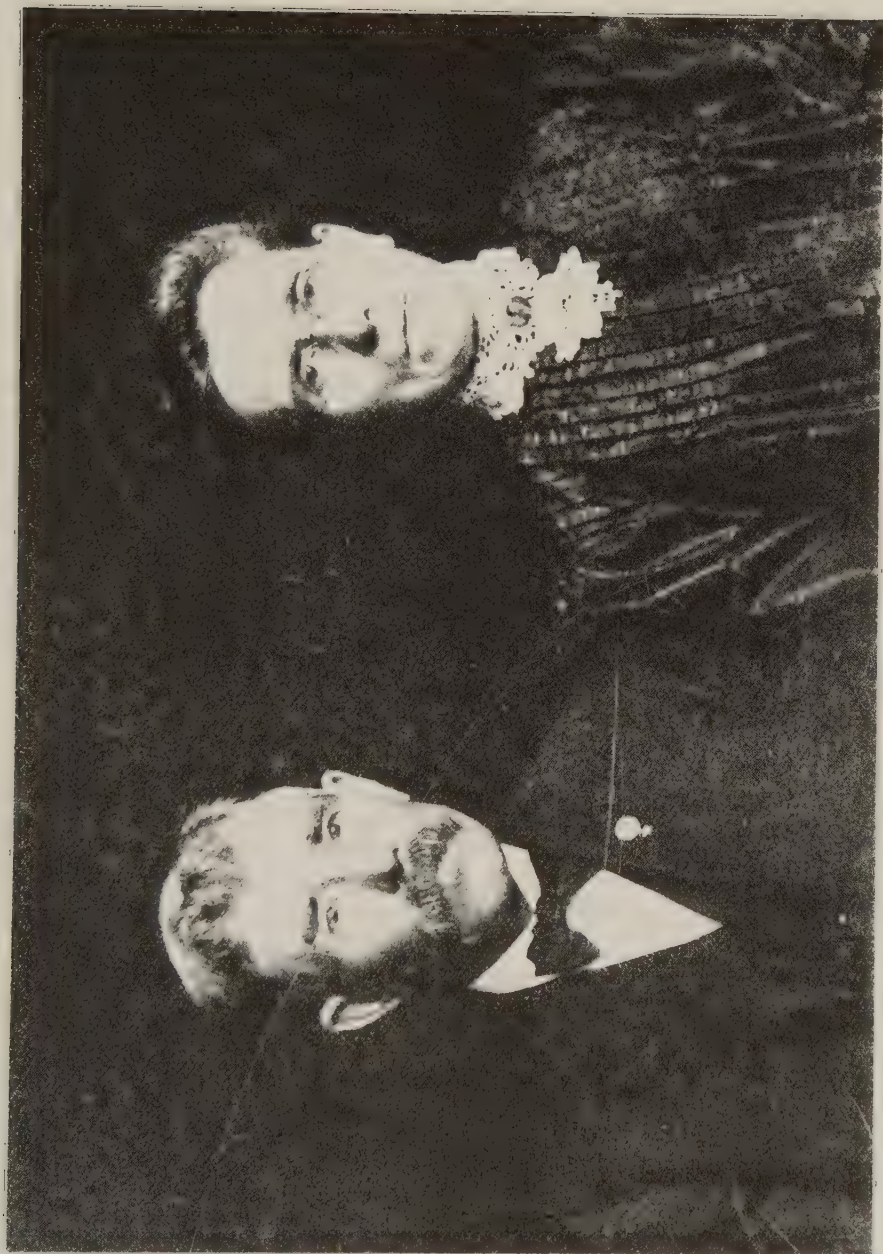
WILLIAM CLEMENTS.

The agricultural interests of Huron county find a worthy and successful representative in William Clements, who is the owner of a valuable farm of one hundred and thirty-four acres in Ridgefield township. His birth occurred in Bathford, Somersetshire, England, on the 9th of August, 1854, his parents being Henry and Mary Clements, who spent their entire lives in that country.

On the 5th of January, 1878, while still residing in his native land, Mr. Clements was united in marriage to Miss Martha Hughes, a daughter of John and Anna (Shore) Hughes, of Wiltshire, England, by whom he had four children. Ada L., the eldest, who was born November 26, 1878, was drowned on the 29th of July, 1898, while boat riding at Cedar Point in company with Howard Fish and another young couple. The boat was overturned and she and Mr. Fish lost their lives, the other two young people being saved. George, whose birth occurred September, 20, 1880, and who makes his home in Ridgefield township, wedded Miss Ethel Daunter, by whom he, has one child, Ada L. Rose, whose natal day was March 8, 1882, gave her hand in marriage to Harry Andrews and they reside in Groton township, Erie county. They now have two children, Ada M. and Everett W. William J., born August 15, 1884, makes his home in Monroeville. He wedded Miss Emma Dirilbliss and has two children, Eunice M. and William.

In March, 1889, Mr. Clements crossed the Atlantic to the United States with his wife and four children, the family home being established in Ridgefield township, Huron county. Securing employment as a farm hand, he was thus busily engaged for four years, and then engaged in farming on shares until 1905, when he purchased his present farm of one hundred and thirty-four acres from Mrs. Anna M. Stentz. As the years have gone by he has made many substantial improvements on the property and in the conduct of his farming interests has met with a most gratifying measure of prosperity by reason of his untiring industry, indefatigable energy and excellent management.

Mr. Clement is a trustee of the Baptist church, of which the other members of his family are likewise devoted and faithful members. He is also identified with



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM CLEMENTS

the Foresters and the Protective Legion, acting as chaplain of those organizations. He is well known throughout the community as one of its substantial citizens and progressive farmers who owes his advancement in life entirely to his own perseverance and well directed labor, and is well worthy the regard which is uniformly accorded him.

CHARLES HEYMAN.

The agricultural interests of Huron county find a worthy and successful representative in Charles Heyman, who owns a well improved farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres in Peru township. He was born in Sherman township, this county, on the 16th of November, 1858, a son of William A. and Janetta (Moore) Heyman, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father, whose birth occurred in August, 1830, was a young man of eighteen years when he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up his abode in Huron county, Ohio. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad W. Heyman, who emigrated to this country two years later, established their home at Hunts Corners, while subsequently they removed to Weavers Corners, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

On arriving in this county William A. Heyman, the father of our subject, worked as a farm hand for different agriculturists of the community but, carefully saving his earnings, was at length enabled to purchase one hundred acres of land in Sherman township and began farming on his own account. As the years passed by and his financial resources increased he added to his landed holdings by additional purchase, buying a tract of two hundred and fifty acres in Sherman township and another of one hundred and twelve acres in Lyme township. He became widely recognized as a most substantial, progressive and representative citizen of the county and at one time owned about six hundred acres of rich and productive land. His political allegiance was given to the men and measures of the democracy and he acted as justice of peace in Sherman township for more than twenty years, did valuable service as a member of the school board and also proved a capable incumbent in other positions of public trust. He assisted in the erection of the German Reformed church at Hunts Corners and the Lutheran church at Pontiac, in both of which he held membership and also served in an official capacity. His demise, which occurred on the 12th of May, 1903, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had won an extensive circle of friends by reason of his honor, integrity and uprightness in every relation of life.

His first wife, who bore the maiden name of Janetta Moore, was about eighteen years of age when she accompanied her parents on their emigration to the new world, the family home being established in Sherman township, Huron county. She was called to her final rest in 1873, when forty-three years of age. By her marriage she had become the mother of fifteen children, as follows: Mary, who is now the wife of William Boehler; Emma, who wedded Henry Bishop, of Nebraska; Louisa, who is deceased; Charles, of this review; Sarah and David, who have likewise passed away; Adam, a resident of Michigan; Isaac and Henry, who make their home in Lyme township; William; Jacob, likewise living in Lyme township; Clara, who is the wife of H. Hacker and resides in Michigan; Ben, of Kansas; and

Henry and Isaac, who are deceased. Subsequent to the death of his first wife William A. Heyman was again married, his second union being with a Mrs. Weirmaster, a widow, by whom he had two children: Hugo, who has passed away; and Otto, a resident of Bellevue.

With the exception of ten months spent at Tiffin, Seneca county, Ohio, Charles Heyman has always resided in Huron county. He obtained his education in the district schools of Sherman township, where he made his home until twenty-three years of age, when he took up his abode in Lyme township, there remaining for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Peru township and has here since resided. He owns a valuable and finely improved farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres and in the conduct of his agricultural interests has met with a measure of prosperity that entitles him to recognition among the successful and progressive citizens of his native county.

On the 9th of March, 1882, Mr. Heyman was joined in wedlock to Miss Louisa Boehler, a native of Peru township and a daughter of Philip and Margaret (Seibel) Boehler, of that township. By this union there are two children: Gotthold W., whose birth occurred April 13, 1883; and Anna L., now the wife of J. C. Linder, of Peru township.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Heyman has given his political allegiance to the democratic party and is now serving as township school director. He acted as constable of his township for two years and was also elected justice of the peace but declined the honor. He is an officer in the German Lutheran church at Pontiac, in the work of which he is most actively and helpfully interested. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree and his fidelity to honorable, manly principles has won for him the good will and friendship of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

SAMUEL L. HARVEY.

Samuel L. Harvey, the well known proprietor of the Fairfield Plow Works, was born in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 26th of January, 1852, his parents being John and Susanna (Ash) Harvey, both of whom were natives of Leicestershire, England. They crossed the Atlantic to the United States about 1846 and came direct to Fairfield township, this county, locating on a farm which the father purchased within a year after taking up his abode thereon. On that place he successfully and energetically carried on his agricultural interests until the time of his retirement from active business life. Unto him and his wife were born the following children, namely: Frances, the widow of Merrett Tuttle; Mrs. Diana St. Johns; Richard, who was killed by a tree falling upon him; David, who wedded Miss Anna McCrary; Samuel L., of this review; and John LeGrande, who married Miss Fanny Johnson, of Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Samuel L. Harvey obtained a good practical education in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until the time of his marriage. He then took up his abode on his father's farm, where he continued to reside until 1881, when he came to North Fairfield and worked at painting and carpentering for about two

years. In 1884 he became engaged in the boot and shoe business, with which he was connected until 1887, when he formed a partnership with Homer Lamoureaux and Olen O. Olney for the manufacture of plows, the enterprise being known as the Fairfield Plow Works. At the end of a few months, however, Mr. Olney and Mr. Harvey purchased the interest of Mr. Lamoureaux and the concern was then conducted under the name of Olney & Harvey until 1893. In that year Mr. Harvey bought the interest of his partner and has since remained as the sole owner of the business, which is now known as the Fairfield Plow Works. The concern manufactures both steel and chilled plows and Mr. Harvey has gradually built up the trade until it is now one of large proportions, shipments being made throughout Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania and other states. The factory turns out what is known as the Fairfield Burch plow, of which Nicholas Burch, a resident of North Fairfield was the patentee. On February 24, 1906, the entire plant was destroyed by fire but it was immediately replaced by a new one on the same site. Mr. Harvey himself sells most of the output, spending about six months of each year on the road. He possesses in a remarkable degree the qualities desirable in the executive officer of a large manufacturing business—energy, industry, tact, a retentive memory, quick assimilation and mastery of details and a wide knowledge of the needs of the trade.

On the 23d of April, 1874, Mr. Harvey was united in marriage to Miss Cinde L. Godden, a daughter of William and Lucinda (Butler) Godden, of Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Godden reared a family of eight children, as follows: Harriett, Elizabeth, Mary, Jennie, Sarah, Cinde, Emory and John. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harvey have been born two sons. Fay Hendrickson, whose birth occurred June 22, 1875, wedded Miss Edith Baumgardner, a daughter of Israel and Mary Baumgardner, of Ridgfield township. They now have two children, Vera Fay and Barbara. Fay H. Harvey is in the employ of his father. Charles Durward, the younger son, who was born on the 2d of July, 1877, is engaged in the undertaking business. He married Miss Laura Bishop, a daughter of David A. and Sarah Elizabeth Bishop, by whom he has one child, Elizabeth Shirley.

Mr. Harvey is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Christian church, associations which are a clear indication of the principles which govern his life and guide his conduct in his relations with his fellowmen. He is now serving as one of the elders in the church. In the county where his entire life has been spent he has an extensive and favorable acquaintance and is widely recognized as a prominent and successful representative of its manufacturing interests.

FRED H. SMITH.

Fred H. Smith is at the head of The Smith Monumental Works, one of the largest establishments of its kind in the country, the business being located in Norwalk, the annual sales amounting to between thirty and sixty thousand dollars. Mr. Smith is a native son of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Sandusky, Erie county, February 27, 1860. He acquired his education in the public schools

of his native city and when a youth of fifteen years, began learning the marble cutter's trade, being bound out by his father for a term of three years. His term of indenture being completed, in 1878, when eighteen years of age, he learned that A. T. Davis, then conducting a marble shop in Norwalk was in need of help and Mr. Smith accordingly applied for the position, which he secured, receiving as compensation a dollar and a half per day. He continued with Mr. Davis a year and a half, his wages being advanced to two dollars and a half per day. Severing his connection with that firm, he then engaged with R. R. King, with whom he worked at intervals for two years, while later he entered the employ of the Lake Shore Railroad Company, cutting stone for their bridge work and receiving a salary of three dollars per day. Still later, he was employed for a time by the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad Company, doing marble cutting for bridge piers and receiving a good salary for the same.

In December, 1883, having saved a small amount of money from his earnings, Mr. Smith formed a partnership with W. V. McKnight, a former fellow workman, and on the 1st of January, 1884, they began operations in the marble business. Their joint capital amounted to but two hundred dollars but they were young men of determination and energy and during the ten years in which they did business together, they built up a large and lucrative trade. After a decade Mr. McKnight died and Mr. Smith purchased his interest in the business from the heirs and continued in the same line, the firm name, however, being changed from McKnight & Smith to The Smith Monumental Works, which continues to the present time. The business was first located at the corner of Seminary street and Linwood avenue. During this period the business had grown to such proportions that it became necessary to seek larger quarters. Accordingly, in June, 1900, Mr. Smith purchased the builders' supply business at the corner of Prospect and Monroe streets, which was formerly used as a supply yard by the Norwalk Brick and Stone Company. On this ground he erected a plant, thirty-six feet wide, one hundred and eighty feet deep and twenty feet high. Here he is now conducting business and in addition to monumental work, also handles all kinds of builders' supplies, with the exception of hardware and lumber. He has secured a large patronage in all branches of his business and especially in the monumental trade, specimens of his work being found in the various cemeteries over a radius of thirty miles. He employs twenty skilled workmen, and being himself well versed in the monumental business in its various phases, he is thus able to give the utmost satisfaction to his patrons. Perhaps the most notable work which he has done is to be found in the Milan cemetery—the Fries Mausoleum, which was erected for the late Valentine Fries, one of Ohio's greatest shipbuilders, at a cost of seventeen thousand, five hundred dollars, it being one of the most expensive individual mausoleums to be found in all northern Ohio. The annual sales now amount to between thirty and sixty thousand dollars and are still increasing. Mr. Smith has connected with him in business his two step-sons, James J. and Harry G. McKnight, both bright young men, who will undoubtedly become experts in their particular line. Both are graduates of a business college.

Mr. Smith was married in 1895, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Katharine (McKnight) Burger, who was born in Norwalk, April 17, 1863. Her father, Joseph Burger, was born in Peru township, Huron county, in 1832. When young,

he learned the carpenter's trade and has spent his entire life in this city, being one of the worthy pioneer citizens of this section of the state.

Mr. Smith is a republican in his political views, while in religious faith, he is a Congregationalist. He is an Odd Fellow, belonging to both the subordinate lodge and the encampment. He may truly be called a self-made man, for, starting out with comparatively nothing, he has through the inherent force of his nature and the utilization of opportunities, passed from the unknown into prominence, advancing from a humble place in the business world to a position of distinction as head of The Smith Monumental Works, an establishment of wide reputation throughout northern Ohio.

SAMUEL C. SHERMAN.

George Washington said that "agriculture is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man;" and it is to this line of activity that Samuel C. Sherman devotes his time and energies, owning a well improved and productive farm of ninety-eight acres in Lyme township. His birth occurred in that township on the 5th of March, 1865, his parents being Samuel and Mary Ann (Carpenter) Sherman, both of whom were natives of England and became early settlers of Huron county, Ohio. The former, whose natal day was March 9, 1838, was a lad of fourteen years when he accompanied his father, William H. Sherman, and his brother, Joseph Sherman, on their emigration to the new world, a settlement being made in this county. Subsequently William H. Sherman returned to England, leaving his son Samuel with Alonzo Husted to whom he was bound out. It was agreed that the lad should work for Mr. Husted until he had attained the age of twenty-one years, when he would receive one hundred dollars and two suits of clothes. He proved so faithful, energetic and industrious that Mr. Husted gave him the money and clothing a year before his apprenticeship had expired. Leaving the money with Mr. Husted, who agreed to pay interest thereon, Mr. Sherman went to work for Luther Avery at a wage of eleven dollars per month. He remained in that employ until, by close economy, he had saved another hundred dollars and then Mr. Husted gave him the money which he had earned during his term of indenture, together with the interest that had accrued thereon. Mr. Sherman was at this time about twenty-three years of age and started out as an agriculturist on his own account, renting a tract of land on shares from Mr. Husted. He also made further preparations for establishing a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Mary Ann Carpenter, who was born in England on the 20th of March, 1843. When his well directed labor and careful expenditure had brought him sufficient capital, Mr. Sherman purchased thirty acres of land in Lyme township and afterward extended the boundaries of the place by additional purchase until it comprised sixty-one acres, which farm is now in possession of his son, George W., whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. As the years went by and his financial resources increased, Mr. Sherman gradually added to his holdings until he is now the owner of three hundred acres of rich, productive and arable land in this county and is widely recognized as

a most substantial, enterprising and respected citizen. Beginning with absolutely nothing but his own willing hands and indomitable courage, he has made his way to success and prosperity and well merits the confidence and esteem which are uniformly accorded him. He now makes his home in Monroeville and is a valued member of the Episcopal church, in which he has served as deacon. His wife was called to her final rest on the 25th of December, 1908.

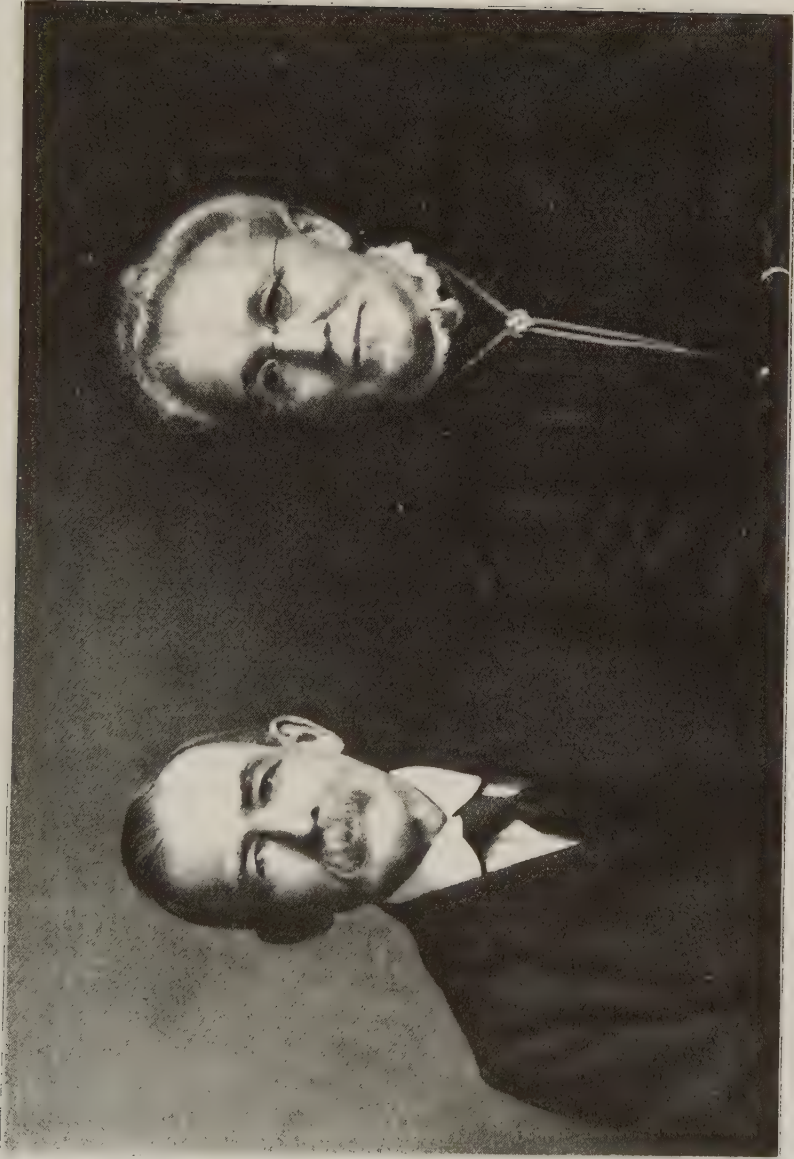
Samuel C. Sherman was reared to agricultural pursuits and acquired his education in the district schools. He has always made his home in Lyme township and has followed farming throughout his active business career, purchasing his present place of ninety-eight acres in 1895. For six years prior, however, he had operated the farm as a renter and has made many improvements on the property, remodeling the dwelling, erecting barns, etc. In fact, the place is lacking in none of the accessories and equipments of a model farm of the twentieth century and the fields annually yield golden harvests in return for the care and labor that is bestowed upon them.

In November, 1887, Mr. Sherman was joined in wedlock to Miss Carolina Peadon, a native of Lyme township and a daughter of George and Anna Peadon, who were born in New Jersey and became residents of Lyme township, this county. By this union, there are seven children, namely: Bertha M.; Henry G.; Mabel Ann; Charles C., who is deceased; Carl L.; Samuel L.; and Laura E. The surviving children are all at home.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Sherman has cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has served as road supervisor for several terms. Like the other members of his family, he is affiliated with the Episcopal church of Lyme township, of which he is acting as deacon and sexton and in the work of which he is deeply and helpfully interested. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sherman have always resided in this community and have an extensive circle of friends who esteem them for their genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives.

CHARLES A. SUTTON.

Charles A. Sutton, a wealthy farmer of Greenwich township, Huron county, and well known for the active and influential part he has played in this locality, owns three hundred and ninety-six acres of excellent land, upon which he lives. It was also the place of his birth, which occurred July 4, 1844, and the modern brick house which is his home stands not very far from the little log cabin which was his father and mother's first home when they came to this county still in the state of a wilderness. He is the son of J. Aranson and Emiline (Brady) Sutton, both of whom were parties to experiences in the pioneer days that rival any that are told of persons who have by virtue of circumstances attained to historic prominence. Aranson Sutton, who was born April 1, 1802, and two companions, his twin brother Alanson and James Carver, formed a trio who came from New York state to Ohio in 1824. They were all single men and spent the first night in Greenwich township, Huron county, with the family of Willis Smith, who



MR. AND MRS. C. A. SUTTON

then lived about one mile east of Greenwich village. The three young men first took up a tract of land in Ruggles township in what is now known as Ashland county, and began the work of clearing. Aranson, however, after a time, sold his interest in the land to Mr. Carver, who remained there. For a few years he worked at whatever there was to do, until in 1828 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land and built his cabin home. About this time he married, and his wife who had to share the rude cabin and the few conveniences, did her share toward relieving the hardships of the men. Even the simplest domestic duties were performed with difficulty, for when Mr. Sutton and the men who helped him were out in the woods clearing land for the crops, his wife would be cooking their meals over a log fire in the open air. He had come to this county with three hundred dollars in money, a log chain, an ax, and a few other belongings, but he went to work with the determination to win. His acres grew to the number of six hundred, and when an accident in the woods brought about his death, November 17, 1870, a train bearing down upon his wagon, which passed over his body, he held good securities to the value of twenty thousand dollars, besides a large amount of personal property. Not only had he been a man who was active in advancing his own private interests, but he was also deeply interested in public matters. For a period of twenty years he served as justice of the peace, and it is said that during that time almost all the marriages of this locality were solemnized by "Squire Sutton." He was an active worker in the Methodist church, being known as an exhorter, and he contributed liberally to all church and charitable work. In his family were five children: Charity, Mary J., Sarah, Louisa and Charles A. Louisa, who is now Mrs. J. A. Fancher, and the son, Charles A., are the only members of the family now living. Mrs. Sutton died January 28, 1873, and with her husband lies buried in Ninevah, Greenwich township.

The son grew to young manhood on his father's farm and acquired his early education in the county district schools, which he supplemented by a few years at Berea College and at Oberlin. At the age of twenty-six he married and with his wife settled on the home farm, upon which they have lived ever since. It is a fine tract of land of three hundred and ninety-six acres, and its fields bear witness to the thorough methods of culture prosecuted by its owner. But though as a farmer he is successful in the highest interpretation of the word, that is not his only concern in life, for he has large financial interests in the Home Savings & Banking Company of Chicago Junction and in the First National Bank of Greenwich. In several other enterprises, large and small, he is interested as well. In politics he and his sons are stanch republicans and factors in the counsels of the party, frequently being members of county committees and delegates to party conventions. Aside from such positions, however, he has never been persuaded to accept any office within the gift of the people, though for a long term he did serve the community well as a member of the township school board.

On the 21st of April, 1870, Mr. Sutton married Miss Ann E. Ellis, a daughter of William B. and Esther (Rickard) Ellis. Mrs. Ellis was a native of Trumbull, Ohio, but her husband came to this state from Onondagua county, New York. He attained to a fair prominence among the farmers here, possessing four hundred acres of land at the time, he passed away, May 28, 1884. His wife survived a little less than four years. Mr. and Mrs. Sutton have three sons:

Edward A., William B. and Charles D. The eldest is a cashier in the Home Savings & Banking Company of Chicago Junction; the second has assumed all the responsibilities of the home farm; and Charles D. is a coal dealer of Cleveland, being the head of the C. D. Sutton Coal Company.

Mr. Sutton and his sons, who appear to be following in his footsteps, are all Christians and give their support to churches, their influence being ever exerted for the good of the community. He is a man whose life may well bear inspection, for he is one of this county's finest citizens.

WILLIAM HENRY TREMBLEY.

William Henry Trembley, a retired agriculturist residing in North Fairfield, was born in Ripley township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 30th of December, 1837, his parents being William and Sarah Ann (Hoffmier) Trembley, natives of New Jersey and New York respectively. The father spent his early life in Tompkins county, New York, and about 1828 came to Huron county, this state, taking up his abode on a farm which he had purchased in Ripley township. Subsequently he sold that property and bought a farm in Fairfield township, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was successfully engaged until the time of his demise. He was twice married and by his first wife had five children, namely: Jerome, Minor, Sarah Ann, David and Mary Ann. By his second wife, he also had five children, as follows: William Henry, Marion, Oliver, Evalina and Mary Ann.

William Henry Trembley was married when a young man of about twenty-seven years and continued to reside on his father's farm until 1869, when he removed to Michigan, in which state he followed general agricultural pursuits for eleven years. On the expiration of that period, he returned to the old home farm—a rich and productive tract of land comprising one hundred and ten and a half acres—which he purchased in 1893. Here he energetically and successfully carried on his farming interests until 1909, winning prosperity as the result of his untiring, persistent and well directed labor. He has now put aside the active work of the fields and is living retired in North Fairfield, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. At the time of the Civil war, he did active duty as a soldier in the Union army, enlisting in August, 1862, as a private of Company D, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River and Nolansville and was honorably discharged in March, 1863, his term of enlistment having expired.

On the 12th of October, 1864, Mr. Trembley was united in marriage to Miss Harriett Bell, who was born on the 16th of March, 1843, her parents being Nathaniel and Nancy Ann (Reynolds) Bell, both of whom were natives of Richland county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Bell reared a family of six children, namely: Jesse W., William W., John W., Sarah Jane, Hannah and Harriett. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Trembley were born three children, two sons and one daughter. William M., the eldest, who was born in 1866 and resides in Fairfield township, wedded Miss Delia Miller, by whom he has three children: Ivan, Sarabelle and Leon. Jay

W., whose birth occurred in 1871, lives on the old homestead in Fairfield township. He married Miss Maud Parker and they now have one son, Carl O., born in 1906. Eva, born in 1879, also makes her home in Fairfield township and is the wife of Adelbert Ewing, by whom she has two children: Alva and Charles Henry.

Mr. Trembley belongs to the Baptist church and has served as a member of its finance committee. He likewise belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic at Norwalk and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. Today, at the age of seventy-one years, he is in possession of a comfortable competence and pleasant home and his well spent life merits the confidence and respect of his fellowmen.

FRANK H. RUSSELL.

Frank H. Russell, who for the past five years has been the principal of the Clarksfield schools and enjoys a reputation more than state wide among the breeders of sheep and poultry, was born in Greenwich township, Huron county, May 5, 1878, and is the son of George and Louisa (Reynolds) Russell, both of whom were natives of this county. The father served in the Civil war as a member of the Twelfth Ohio Independent Battery and is still living, but the mother died February 16, 1893. He has always been a farmer and since 1884 has been a resident of Clarksfield township, though really all his life, with the exception of about five years, has been spent here. Three children were born to him and his wife: Frank H., Doren G. and Jennie L., all of whom are living.

Frank H. Russell spent his youth on his father's farm and received his education in the district schools of Clarksfield township. Later he was graduated, in 1899, from the Fitchville high school, through which he worked his own way, having taught school during his senior year, keeping up with his class at the same time. Since graduation, he has devoted himself to teaching and for the past five years has been principal of the Clarksfield Hollow schools and now, in 1909, is still filling that position. In his profession, he has been very successful, is a progressive teacher and popular with his patrons and pupils alike, and the work accomplished in the school is very gratifying to the citizens of the village.

In addition to his interest in education, Mr. Russell takes a great interest in sheep, poultry and dog breeding. Of the first, he breeds American, Delaine and Merino, and his flocks contain some of the finest animals in the state. As the breeder of thoroughbreds he has made a reputation which has brought his animals into such demand, that he is not able to supply all the orders for them that come from all parts of the United States. He is an ambitious and aspiring young breeder and spares no care to ensure the best stock to be had. In poultry, he raises pure bred Single Comb Brown and White Leghorns, Rhode Island Reds, Barred Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, and Black Minorcas. Pedigreed Scotch collies are his choice of dogs. He exhibits frequently throughout the state, where his animals have not only brought him fame, awards in large numbers, but also an income of no small proportions. Since 1901, he has made his home in Clarksfield Hollow, and his farm, embracing sixty-five acres, borders

the village. It is well adapted to his breeding interests, and his barns, yards and kennels excite the admiration of all who are concerned with such. Agriculture as well receives some share of his time, so that with all his interests, he is a very busy man.

On the 14th of December, 1890, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Russell to Miss Onie Stone, the daughter of Fernando and Julia (Clarke) Stone, of Fitchville township. Of this union, there have been born three daughters: Bernice L., Grace J. and Ruth L. Mrs. Russell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is intimately identified with all church and Sunday school work.

In politics, Mr. Russell is a republican, but though he is active in all public matters and interested in the proper administration of affairs, he has never sought for office. He is a man of progressive spirit along all lines, in his vocation and his avocation, and the home of which he is the head is one of the factors here for the advancement of good work and intelligent interest in affairs.

JEROME L. MEAD.

Jerome L. Mead, the senior partner of the well known firm of Mead & Woodward, was born on the old homestead farm just outside the corporation limits of the city of Norwalk, his natal day being November 7, 1850. His parents were Joel E. and Betsy Ann (Lewis) Mead, the former born in Putnam county, New York, in 1817, while the latter's birth occurred in Huron county, Ohio, in 1820. The father, who was identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career, was called to his final rest in 1870. Of his family of seven children, three still survive.

Jerome L. Mead acquired his education in the country schools and was reared on the home farm, the management and care of which devolved upon him when his father passed away in 1870, he being the eldest son of the family. Subsequently, he bought the interest of the other heirs in the property and thus became the sole owner of the old homestead farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was actively and successfully engaged for about twelve years. At the end of that time, he disposed of the property and purchased a tract of land of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Fairfield township, where he remained for seven years, conducting an extensive business as a buyer and shipper of all kinds of live stock.

In 1896, he came to Norwalk, where he has since been engaged in the produce business as a member of the firm of Mead & Woodward, the junior partner being D. O. Woodward. They buy and ship grain, wool, hay, etc., and also deal in coal and seeds of all varieties, their business having amounted to more than two hundred thousand dollars annually for the past few years. They have three elevators and also own considerable real estate, which they rent. The firm enjoys an unassailable reputation for the honesty of its business methods, the partners being widely recognized as men of unfaltering integrity and unquestioned reliability. Mr. Mead is well known as one of the substantial, enterprising and

progressive citizens and business men of his native county and the success which has attended his efforts is all the more creditable by reason of the fact that it is entirely the result of his own well directed labor, capable management and excellent executive ability.

On the 2d of May, 1877, Mr. Mead was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda L. Woodward, whose birth occurred in Clyde, Ohio, on the 8th of April, 1848, her parents being O. P. and Clara D. Woodward. The two sons born of this union are as follows: Ralph W., who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 27th of January, 1878; and Fred J., whose birth occurred December 15, 1880. Both children obtained their education in schools of Norwalk and Cleveland. Ralph W., the elder son, is now serving in the capacity of bookkeeper with the firm of Mead & Woodward. He is a graduate of Adelbert college of Cleveland, a member of the class of 1902, and is a fine example of the modern American young business man. Fred J. Mead is engaged in the manufacture of burial vaults at Orange, New Jersey, conducting an extensive business of that character. He has built up the enterprise through his own efforts and, though still a young man, has gained recognition among the leading and representative citizens of his community.

In his political views, Mr. Mead is a staunch republican and has capably served as the incumbent in the office of township treasurer for two terms. He is a devoted and consistent member of the Presbyterian church, the teachings of which he exemplifies in his daily life. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the county where he has always resided and fully merits the high regard which is uniformly given him.

JOHN K. HESTER.

John K. Hester owns and operates the old homestead farm, consisting of one hundred and four acres, situated in Bronson township, and here he gives his attention to raising the various grains adapted to the soil and climate. He was born on this farm, September 10, 1850, the third in a family of four sons, whose parents were Matthias and Louisa L. (Kiser) Hester, the former born in Ashland county, Ohio, December 24, 1815, and the latter September 22, 1822. The other members of the family are Wallace W. and George M., both now deceased, and Jay M., who makes his home in Clyde, this state. Matthias Hester was a stone mason and engraver by trade and worked at the same until after his marriage. He then engaged in farming in Huron county, and owing to his own labors and the wise counsel and assistance of his wife, he became quite successful in this venture. She died in 1878, and thus the members of her household suffered a severe loss. The death of the father occurred October 18th, 1903.

John K. Hester was reared to farm life and acquired a common school education. He is now the owner of the farm which his father purchased in 1848 and which has been in possession of the family since that time. Mr. Hester is engaged in general farming on one hundred and four acres and in addition to his work he also handles machinery and real estate. At the present time, he is dealing

in real estate in northwestern Texas and is very enthusiastic over the prospects of that district.

Mr. Hester was married in 1877 to Mrs. Cecelia J. Atwater, who was born in Huron county in 1852, and by her former marriage had one daughter, Anna A., who was born July 30, 1873. She is now the wife of Edward F. Swimmer, by whom she has three children: Raymond H., born April 7, 1900; Helen Adelaide, born October 22, 1903; and Cecelia I., who was born December 3, 1907.

Mr. Hester is a republican in his political views but is not active in the work of the party, preferring to give his time to his farming interests, in which he is meeting with success. Quiet and unassuming in manner, he is devoted to the welfare of his wife and in the community in which he has always made his home is highly respected by all with whom he is associated.

DANIEL HEYMAN.

Daniel Heyman, one of the most prominent and enterprising citizens of Lyme township, where he owns and operates a finely improved farm of one hundred and ninety-two acres, is a man of excellent executive ability and superior judgment whose services have been sought in the management and control of important business concerns of the county. He was born in Sherman township, Huron county, February 26, 1859, a son of John G. W. and Elizabeth (Longscheid) Heyman, both of whom were natives of Germany and became early settlers of this county. The former was born on January 8, 1826, and was but a young lad when he accompanied his father, John Heyman, on the voyage to the new world in 1848, the family home being established at Hunts Corners, in this county, on the site now occupied by the Reformed church. John G. W. Heyman continued to reside there until the time of his marriage, when he took up his abode in Sherman township, there purchasing one hundred and thirty acres of land which was covered with timber. There was an old sawmill on the place, where he procured the necessary lumber to build a home and then with characteristic energy set himself to the task of clearing his land. Soon it was transformed into a rich and productive farming property and he there successfully carried on his agricultural interests until within a few months of his death, spending his remaining days, however, in the home of his son Daniel. He was one of the most prosperous and energetic farmers of the community and as his financial resources increased he gradually added to his landed holdings by additional purchase until at the time of his demise he was the owner of about seven hundred acres. A public-spirited citizen, he took a deep and helpful interest in matters pertaining to the general welfare and capably served his fellow townsmen in the positions of trustee and school director. He assisted in the organization of the Reformed church at Hunts Corners, contributed liberally to its support and was acting as elder when he passed away, November 21, 1903. His death was the occasion of deep regret to all who knew him and the county mourned the loss of a citizen whose labors had proven an important factor in its early development and upbuilding along material, intellectual, political and moral lines. He had long survived his wife, her demise



DANIEL HEYMAN

having occurred December 2, 1887. Their family numbered ten children, namely: George, who is now deceased; Amelia, who became the wife of August Scheid; Daniel, of this review; Thomas; Jacob; William; Albert; Phillip, who is deceased; Mary, who is also deceased; and Mary, the second of the name, who has passed away.

Daniel Heyman obtained his education in the district schools and remained a resident of his native township until 1881. In the fall of the following year he purchased his present place of one hundred and ninety-two acres in Lyme township from Isaac Banta and has improved the property until there is now no finer farm to be found in the entire community. He has an attractive and substantial residence, good barns and outbuildings and in addition to his home place also owns another tract of one hundred and seventy acres in Sherman township. Year by year he has labored diligently and persistently and the success which has crowned his efforts as an agriculturist is but the merited reward of untiring industry, indefatigable energy and capable management. Resourceful and enterprising, he has also extended his efforts into other lines of activity and is a stockholder of the Farmers & Citizens Bank of Monroeville, Ohio, likewise serving as a member of its board of directors and finance board. He is the president of the Heyman Milling Company of Monroeville and one of the directors and vice-president of the Sherman Oil & Gas Company of this county. The latter concern was organized in June, 1908, with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars and has about sixty stockholders.

On the 8th of November, 1881, Mr. Heyman was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Scheid, whose birth occurred in Erie county, March 25, 1858, her parents being William and Caroline Scheid, of Erie county, Ohio. Unto them have been born eight children: Luella, Laura, Daniel, Jr., Leli, Oliva, Merritt, Harold and Gladys, all at home.

Mr. Heyman gives his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy and is now serving his third term as township trustee, while for eighteen years he has been a member of the school board, ever discharging his official duties in a prompt and capable manner. Fraternally he is identified with the Eagles lodge, No. 490, of Bellevue, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Reformed church at Hunts Corners, of which he is acting as trustee. Having spent his entire life in this county, he is well and favorably known within its borders and has long been numbered among its most substantial, representative and respected citizens.

HENRY G. WATTS.

The name of Watts has been a familiar one in Greenwich township for a number of years, the head of the family at present being Henry G. Watts, of the Watts Elevator Company of Greenwich village. He was born August 5, 1860, and is the eldest son of Robert and Mary Louisa (Pike) Watts, who, in March of 1865, settled on a farm in Ripley township, Huron county, which is still owned by the family, the father operating it until 1899, when he retired and moved to

Greenwich, where he died in April, 1906. The mother still survives him. Robert Watts was an active, prosperous, public-spirited citizen and won the respect and esteem of all by his integrity.

Henry G. Watts was reared on the home farm, receiving a district-school education, and that culture and moral strength which emanate from a well kept country home. For some fifteen years after attaining his majority, he remained on the home farm and then removed with his family to Greenwich, in the spring of 1896. For ten years, he engaged successfully in the general mercantile business, but since 1906, he and his brother, Edgar S. Watts, have conducted an elevator, buying and selling farm products of all kinds extensively. The firm also operates an elevator at Greencamp, Marion county, where they also deal in wool, tile and building supplies. The Watts Elevator Company is a successfully conducted business concern and takes rank with the best of its kind in the state.

Mr. Watts is a married man, his union with Miss Anna G. Strimple, of Greenwich, having been celebrated in October, 1892. She is the daughter of George and Elmira (Mead) Strimple, respected and influential farmers of the township.

The cares of a very active business life give little time for public service, yet Mr. Watts has many times laid aside personal interests for those of his fellow citizens. He is now, and has been for years, a member of the village council, in which capacity he has favored good roads and civic improvements of all kinds. He has also been a member of the township board of education for years and the splendid schools of the different districts attest the intelligent interest he has displayed. He is also a member of the board of infirmary directors.

In the matter of politics, Mr. Watts is a republican, and as a delegate and adviser in the frequently called meetings of his party, is a tower of strength, because of his clear business judgment. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities, Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., and No. 640, I. O. O. F. The family attend the Methodist church, of which Mrs. Watts is a working member.

FRED MULLER.

Fred Muller, a prosperous farmer of Sherman township and the owner of seventy-five acres of excellent land upon which he lives, was born in Germany, December 19, 1862, and is the son of Christian and Christina Muller. The parents both lived and died in Germany, and their union was blessed with five children. Of these the three oldest died in their youth, while Christina still lives in Germany, and Fred, the youngest, is the subject of this sketch.

Fred Muller came to this country in 1887 and settled first in Baltimore. After five months there, he came to Bellevue, Ohio, where he remained about five years, working on the railroad and in a grocery store. In 1892, he purchased his present farm from his father-in-law, Adam Sotfred, and in the seven years it has been his home, he has considerably improved it, increasing its value many times. Before coming to this country, he had completed his education in the land of his birth, and had served the three years in the Germany army, which is exacted of

every native born male, but in the years that he has been a citizen of this republic he has exerted himself in the interests of the country of his adoption and has taken an active part in local affairs, at one time serving as road supervisor.

Mr. Muller has been married twice. The bride of the first marriage was Miss Carolina Sotfred, who was born in August, 1857, in Thompson township, Seneca county, a daughter of Adam Sotfred, and died October 22, 1892. Three children were born of that union: Victor, Cora and Henry. When he married the second time, Miss Anna Linder was the lady of his choice, a native of Sherman township and the daughter of Lawrence Linder, who with his wife still lives in that township. Of this union, which was effected on the 4th of May, 1901, there have been five children born: Nora, Adolph, Fred, Walter and Elsie. The family are members of the Lutheran church on the Columbus pike and are regular in their attendance at its services.

Mr. Muller is counted among the prosperous farmers of this region. Though German born, he has identified himself with the interests of the country of his adoption and in the years that he acted as a public servant proved the quality of his allegiance. The German Aid Society, connected with his church, is the only organization to which he belongs, but he is a man who has nevertheless made strong friends in his locality, for he is known to be of a strong and reliable character.

JOHN D. SMITH.

One of the prosperous farmers of Fitchville township, Huron county, Ohio, is John D. Smith, who was born in New London, July 2, 1866, and is the son of Thomas and Johanna (Van Vecten) Smith. Both parents were natives of New York state, the father's birthplace having been Cross Rivers, and both came as young people to Huron county. The Smith family settled in Norwalk, but Thomas Smith pursued his calling as a farmer and butcher in New London for a number of years. In 1876 he removed to Michigan, where he died some years ago. His widow has since become the wife of Preston Palmer, a prominent citizen of Fitchville township.

In the village of Fitchville John D. Smith was reared under his uncle's care, receiving his education in the schools of that place. At the age of seventeen he engaged in teaching for a time, and then entered the Northwestern University at Ada, Ohio. After three years' study he received from this institution the degree of B. S. and resumed his teaching. He taught school at West Milldrove, Wood county, for five years. But two other schools enjoyed his services during the sixteen years he followed that profession. He was very successful, obtaining the love of his pupils and the approval of his school boards, who recognized him as a progressive man and fine teacher. In 1898 he commenced farming on the land he now occupies, a tract of two hundred and sixty acres, which makes good returns for the hard work he puts into it and the advanced and scientific agriculture he carries on. Of recent years, he has devoted a great deal of time to the raising of sheep, which are of the finest, and he constantly improves his breed.

On the 26th of May, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Belle Norris, a daughter of Omar P. and Frona (Patton) Norris. Her mother died when she was a small girl, but her father is a prominent farmer of Fostoria, Seneca county. He was a captain in the Civil war, has served several terms in the Ohio legislature, and is still active in the public affairs of his county. Mrs. Smith before her marriage taught in the schools of Wood county, where she was known as a progressive teacher beloved of her pupils, and she still continues to have a deep interest in the educational life of the community. Two children, Ralph E. and Pauline, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

Though he has never accepted any public office, not from lack of urging, Mr. Smith has ever exhibited a deep interest in the affairs that concern his fellow citizens and takes part in the life of the township. He affiliates with the republican party and casts his influence on the side of progress, the betterment of conditions generally, the improvement of public buildings, the advancement of educational institutions and the increase of good roads. Successful in his work and a man of high principles, he is respected and admired in the community where he lives.

ALEXANDER SINCLAIR.

Alexander Sinclair, a prosperous and prominent farmer of Clarksfield township, Huron county, was born November 25, 1837, in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and is the son of Alexander and Agnes (Copeland) Sinclair. The family, consisting of the father and mother and nine children, one married daughter remained in the land of her birth, came to this country in June, 1852. When they arrived in New London, Huron county, their capital amounted to twenty dollars in gold and a few personal effects. They remained in that place but a short time when they removed to Savannah, Ashland county, going from there to Ruggles. In 1855, they came to Clarksfield township, Huron county, where they purchased a small farm, which was the home of the parents as long as they lived. The father followed the trade of a stone-mason and contractor up to his sixty-fourth year, when he took up farming, which was his occupation for the remainder of his days. His death occurred in the fall of 1893, and his wife preceded him to his last resting place by but a few years. They were buried in Clarksfield cemetery. There were eleven children born to this couple, nine of whom came with them to this country and one born after their arrival. Of these Elizabeth, Jane, Isabel, Mary, Alexander and John are still living; Agnes, Ellen, David, William and Charles have died. Those living have all attained prosperity in their walks of life.

When Alexander Sinclair was a lad in Scotland, he herded sheep for a mere pittance, but upon coming to America, he took up the mason's trade which he learned from his father. This he followed for a number of years, at length becoming a contractor and winning a reputation for skilled and honest work. He was married at the age of thirty-one, and four years later, during which time he pursued his trade, took up farming one and one-quarter miles east of Clarksfield Hollow, but in 1884, he removed to his present farm, which he had previously purchased. It was an unimproved tract, containing one hundred and forty acres,

with no buildings at all, but in the years it has been in Mr. Sinclair's possession, it has been greatly improved. The land, which is of a fine quality, is all under excellent cultivation, and buildings thoroughly modern and up-to-date have been erected. He practices diversified farming and raises a considerable amount of stock, in both of which he has been more than ordinarily successful and has risen to a position of prominence in the community.

On the 22d of December, 1868, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Sinclair and Miss Clara Gridley, the daughter of Royal and Susan (Twaddle) Gridley. The family were among the pioneers of this locality and were prominent in its affairs. After their marriage the young couple lived for four years with Mrs. Sinclair's family at the end of which time they removed to their farm one and one-fourth miles east of Clarksfield. One daughter, Grace, has been born to them.

In politics Mr. Sinclair is a republican, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and every time since then having given his support to that party. He has shown considerable interest in public matters, and at one time served as township trustee and also as a member of the school board. Foreign born, he has proven his right to citizenship in this republic, and the record of his life and the annals of his public service, demonstrate that upon no one more creditable to the country could the right of franchise have been conferred.

EDGAR BURRAS.

Edgar Burras, who has been a resident of Fairfield township throughout his entire life, has devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits with gratifying success. His birth occurred in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 7th of November, 1842, his parents being Reuben and Sally (Standish) Burras. The father's birth occurred in Cayuga county, New York, in 1812, while the mother, a descendant of Miles Standish, was born near Plymouth Rock. The paternal grandfather was the first representative of the name in this country, coming from Amsterdam, Holland. In early manhood he carried on business as a wholesale crockery merchant, the enterprise having been turned over to him at the age of nineteen by his uncle at his death. The year 1828 witnessed the arrival of Reuben Burras in Fairfield township, this county, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. A few years after locating here he purchased a farm and was actively and successfully identified with agricultural interests throughout the remainder of his life, becoming widely recognized as a most successful farmer and enterprising citizen.

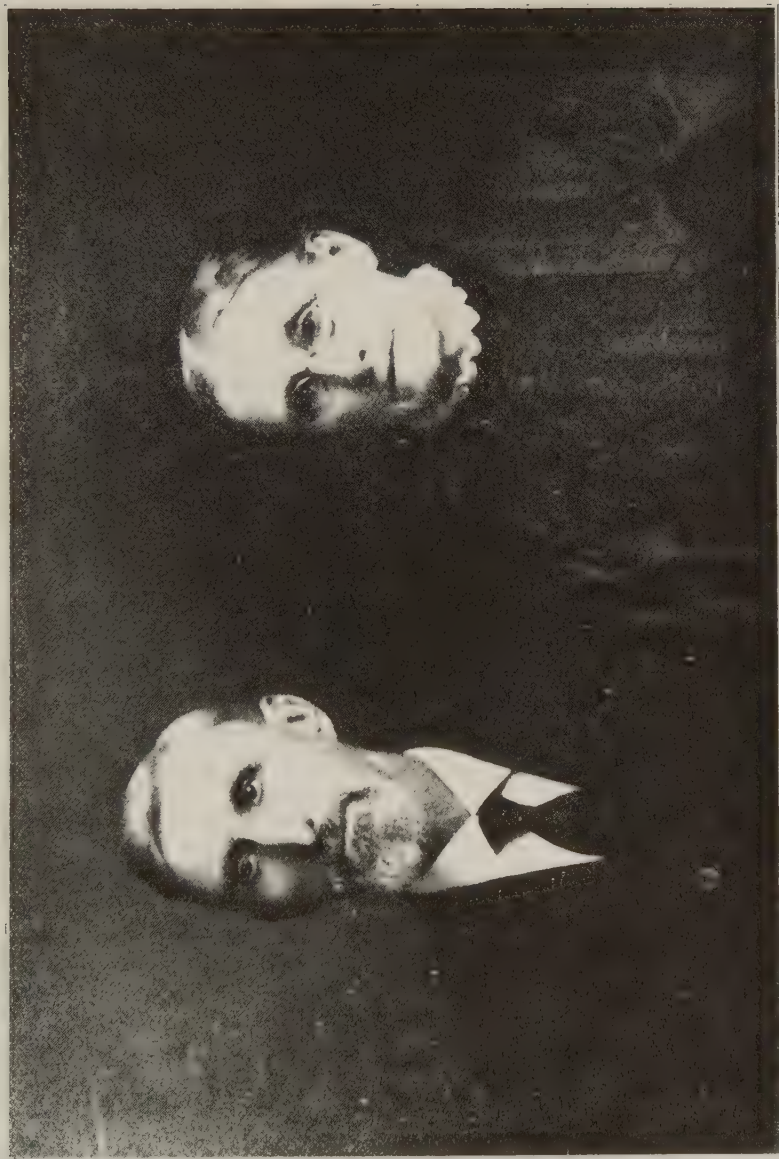
In his youthful days Edgar Burras attended the district schools and also early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, giving his father the benefit of his services in the cultivation of the old home farm. The work of plowing, planting and harvesting has claimed his attention throughout his entire business career and as the years have passed by he has gained a creditable measure of prosperity in his agricultural interests, the fields yielding their annual tribute of golden grain as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

On the 31st of December, 1863, Mr. Burras was united in marriage to Miss Eudolphia Jennings, who was born April 15, 1843, a daughter of G. S. and Polly Ann (Wheeler) Jennings. The parents were natives of Connecticut and on coming to this county took up their abode in Fairfield township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burras were born three children: Edwin, Minnie and Elmer, all of whom are now married. Both Mr. Burras and his wife are devoted and consistent members of the Baptist church at North Fairfield and are highly esteemed in the community as people of genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character, having gained the confidence and regard of all with whom they have come in contact. Mr. Burras has lived in this county all his life, covering a period of two-thirds of a century, and is therefore largely familiar with its annals from pioneer times down to the present.

JAMES A. FANCHER.

One of the most influential farmers of Greenwich township is the gentleman whose name heads this review. He is an ex-commissioner of the county and has held many offices of public trust during a long and useful life. Mr. Fancher is a native of Greenwich township, born near the place where he now resides, November 1, 1839, his parents being Daniel and Polly (Mitchell) Fancher. His father's people were natives of Connecticut, his grandfather, Thaddeus Fancher, removing from the Nutmeg state to Dutchess county, New York, and thence in 1820 to Greenwich township, Huron county, Ohio. He was a harnessmaker by trade, but farmed during the latter portion of his life. Daniel Fancher reared a family of five children: Lorana, Moses, Belinda, Emily and James A. The father was a respected and highly successful farmer, owning some three hundred acres of choice land, which he had cleared of the heavy forest. His wife died in July, 1840, when the youngest son was but one year old, but the husband, surviving her many years, passed away April 16, 1885. Daniel Fancher was a man of quiet tastes, revered by all classes for his many splendid traits of character. Originally a whig in politics, he became one of the founders of the republican party and throughout life consistently supported its policies.

James A. Fancher thus grew up under the master hand of a skilled agriculturist, and on attaining his majority found himself splendidly equipped for the further development, along scientific lines, of the farm which came into his possession, his education being such as could be secured in the rather rudimentary country schools of the day. He has been twice married, his first wife, Barintha Brown, having died a year after their union, which occurred in October, 1861. Her father, Luther Brown, was a prominent citizen of Greenwich township. On February 9, 1864, Mr. Fancher married Miss Louisa M. Sutton, a daughter of Aranson and Emeline (Brady) Sutton, this family also being one of the pioneers in Greenwich township. The children born to this union are: Jennie B., Charles D. and Fred S., only the youngest of whom is living. Fred S. was educated for the ministry of the Methodist church, his scholastic training being obtained at the Ohio Wesleyan college, and his professional training at the Boston Theological school. He married Miss Lena Strimple, of Richland county, by whom he



MR. AND MRS. J. A. FANCHER

has two interesting children, and he is now a successful minister of the gospel at Bloomville, Seneca county, Ohio.

James A. Fancher settled down to farming after marriage, and has tilled the ground consistently and persistently to the present day, prospering in his life work. A successful grower of other stock, he interests himself especially in sheep, of which particular animal he is a splendid judge. In its every appointment his farm shows how nature responds to the mind that understands her.

The life of James A. Fancher has been marked by fine public-spirit and an alertness to every movement which has looked to the betterment of society. Serving faithfully in the minor offices of trustee and member of the board of education of his township, he has always given his support to that which would elevate the standard in each department. Faithful to these minor trusts, he was selected by his party in 1887, as one of the commissioners of the county and again in 1890, serving six years. It is of record that at his second election he carried the county by more than sixteen hundred plurality. He points with pride to the work accomplished during his period of service, the present substantial sheriff's residence and county jail being completed during his first term, also the enlargement of the county infirmary, and a system of county pike building being inaugurated, which will give to Huron county one of the best systems of roads of the state. All of these public matters were attended to with the same careful and considerate attention to detail which characterizes Mr. Fancher's private business.

It will be understood that Mr. Fancher is a power in republican politics, his face being a familiar one at county and state conventions. He and his family are members of the Methodist church, in which they are active, both in church and Sunday-school, Mr. Fancher being superintendent and teacher of the latter for some thirty years. Judged by the standards of efficiency obtaining in Huron county, and which are of a high order, James A. Fancher's life has been an unqualified success.

JOHN JACOB SCHEID.

John Jacob Scheid, a retired agriculturist of Sherman township, residing on his fine farm of two hundred and seventy-six acres, is now enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. He was born in Germany on the 19th of January, 1831, his parents being William and Lucetta Scheid. In 1849 the father determined to establish his home in the United States and after an ocean voyage of forty-five days landed at New York city. He then went to Albany, New York, by boat, thence by train to Buffalo and by boat to Sandusky, Ohio. From that city he came to Huron county via the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, which had been completed just a year previous. On arriving in this county he first took up his abode at Hunts Corners and subsequently located in Peru township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty acres. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, being called to his final rest in 1853, when fifty-eight years of age. His wife, surviving him for a number of years, passed away when she had

attained the age of sixty-four. Unto this worthy couple were born eight children, as follows: Jane, who is deceased, as is likewise her husband, Christopher Lantz; William, who has also passed away; Elizabeth, whose demise occurred in Germany; Kathryn E., deceased; Kathryn, the second of the name, who is the widow of Henry Rowe; John Jacob, of this review; and Minnie and Christopher, both of whom have passed away.

John Jacob Scheid was a young man of eighteen years when he came with his parents to Peru township and here he has since continued to make his home. He had attended school in the fatherland but after coming to this country his time was entirely taken up with the arduous labor incident to the development of a new farm. General agricultural pursuits have claimed his attention throughout his entire business career and he is now the owner of a highly improved and valuable farm of two hundred and seventy-six acres in Sherman township, which is at present being operated by his sons, as he has put aside the active work of the fields and is living retired. The commodious brick residence standing on the property was erected by him in 1865.

In February, 1857. Mr. Scheid was joined in wedlock to Miss Barbara Bilstein, a native of Germany. Their union was blessed with eleven children, namely: Elizabeth, who is deceased; Emma, who lives at home with her parents; Charles, who wedded Miss Louisa Boehler, by whom he has four children, Mabel, Ada, Olive and Marion; Henry, living in Sherman township, who married Miss Rose Korndorfer and has three children, Helen, Dora and Clara; George and Minnie, both of whom are at home; John, residing near Havana, Ohio, who wedded Gertrude Scheid, by whom he has two children, Harold and Catherine; Fred and Albert, who are also under the parental roof; and two who passed away in infancy.

In politics Mr. Scheid is a staunch republican and has served in the position of road supervisor and also as a member of the election board. He is a prominent and valued member of the Lutheran church, which he assisted in erecting and in which he has held various official positions, acting as treasurer for thirteen years. He is most widely and favorably known throughout the community in which he has now resided for six decades and to his many friends is known as "Uncle Jacob." His life has always been a busy and useful one and in this country, where labor is unhampered by caste or class, he has won a measure of prosperity that now enables him to spend his remaining days amid all of the comforts and many of the luxuries which go to make life worth living.

EDGAR GRANT SILLIMAN.

Edgar Grant Silliman is cultivating a farm of one hundred and forty-nine acres in Fairfield township and is an agriculturist whose well directed energy and keen foresight are bringing to him a creditable measure of prosperity. He was born in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 1st of September, 1865, his parents being George and Mary (Keeler) Silliman, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. The father's birth occurred in Bridgeport, that state, on the 20th of August, 1815, and the mother was born in the year 1830. Their marriage was cel-

celebrated on the 8th of January, 1855. The maternal grandparents of Edgar G. Silliman were Burr and Mary E. (Nash) Keeler, likewise natives of Connecticut. George and Mary (Keeler) Silliman reared a family of two daughters and one son, namely: Flora, Bertha and Edgar Grant.

The last named pursued his education in the district schools and remained under the parental roof until the time of his marriage. He then made his home west of North Fairfield until 1892 in which year he purchased his present farm of one hundred and forty-nine acres and has since devoted his time and energies to its cultivation and improvement. He has made it a model farm and everything about the place indicates his thrifty spirit and enterprising efforts. His labors in the fields are annually rewarded by rich and abundant harvests and he is widely recognized as one of the progressive and successful agriculturists of the community.

On the 19th of June 1889 Mr. Silliman was united in marriage to Miss Elfie A. Smith whose birth occurred on the 30th of July, 1867, her parents being Watson Frederick and Mary (Joiner) Smith, of Greenfield township, Huron county, Ohio. Her paternal grandparents, Abel and Jerusha (Brooks) Smith, who were natives of Rome, New York, took up their abode in Greenfield township, this county, about 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Silliman are now the parents of three children, as follows: Alma M., who was born June 15, 1890; Burr George, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 17th of August, 1892; and Arthur L., born December 27, 1894.

Fraternally Mr. Silliman is identified with the Maccabees, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, in which he is serving as clerk and trustee. Both he and his wife have always resided in this county and are most widely and favorably known within its borders, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

Abel Smith was 2nd wife of Miss Bishop - he 1810s. Mrs. John Anderson born 18.61 rec'd about Abel son of Jacob Smith - Juno.

COLONEL JAMES H. SPRAGUE.

This name at once suggests a power in manufacturing circles in Huron county, for Colonel James H. Sprague is at the head of the Sprague Umbrella Company, which he organized in 1892, with a capital stock of forty thousand dollars and a surplus of two hundred thousand dollars. Colonel Sprague was born in New York city, February 15, 1846, a son of Judge James Sprague, of Auburn, New York, who was a captain in the Mexican war. The great-great-grandfather of our subject was Major Josiah Sprague, who was a leader of the Sons of Liberty, who, opposed to the importation of tea into the colonies, in 1773 threw overboard a large amount of tea at the Boston harbor. He was also a member of the Society of the Cincinnati. The great-great-grandfather was a colonel in the war of 1812, while his son, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a major in the same war.

Colonel James H. Sprague, reared in the place of his nativity, acquired his education in Red Creek Union Academy, from which he was graduated, after which he entered Pulaski Academy of New York, graduating from that institution. He also attended school in Watertown, New York. In 1861, when but a youth of four-

teen years, he entered the volunteer service in the Nineteenth New York Volunteer Infantry, becoming a sergeant of Company A, Captain Charles Stewart commanding. He was in the first battle of Bull Run, after which he was detailed for guard duty at the White House in Washington, District of Columbia. After six months thus spent he was detailed in the secret service under Secretary Staunton, filling the latter position until 1864. At that time the regiment being changed from infantry to light artillery, Colonel Sprague joined his company, being promoted to second lieutenant of the same. Following the battle of Fort Wagner, for brave and meritorious service at the front, he was promoted to first lieutenant, later becoming captain and having command of Battery F, Coast Division, under General Foster. He took part in many notable engagements, always discharging his duties in a most creditable manner. He was taken prisoner at Pocatalago, South Carolina, and was taken to Charleston, South Carolina, where he was held for three weeks, when he made his escape and returned to his battery. He was mustered out of service at Charlestown, South Carolina, in June, 1865.

Returning to his home, Colonel Sprague became manager of McLean's circus, remaining in that position until 1869, when he came to Norwalk, Ohio. He secured a position with B. Courtright, as traveling salesman, selling fanning mills, but after a time thus spent he traveled for the Norwalk Tobacco Company, selling their goods. From 1876 until 1882 he was attorney for D. M. Osborne & Company, who handled harvesting machines and binders. Eventually Colonel Sprague became general manager of the Plano Harvester & Binder Manufacturing Company, of Chicago, Illinois, his territory covering Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky and Tennessee. He continued with this company until 1886 and then feeling justified in entering business on his own account, he organized the firm of Sprague & French, manufacturers of advertising novelties. He was quite successful in this venture, securing the capital which in 1892 enabled him to organize the Sprague Umbrella Company of Norwalk. From the beginning he has been the president and general manager and also owns the greater share of the capital stock, amounting to forty thousand dollars, with a surplus of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. They manufacture auto tops, wind shields, wagon umbrellas, carriage and lawn canopies, etc., and employ over two hundred people in the manufacture of these various articles. They also have their own plant and real estate. Their annual sales now amount to from two hundred and fifty to three hundred thousand dollars. In addition to their Norwalk office they have a branch office in New York city and also one in San Francisco, their sales extending to all parts of the world. The success of the firm is due largely to the efforts of Colonel Sprague, who has spared no energy in bringing it to its present mammoth proportions, for the Sprague Umbrella Company has won a world-wide reputation.

It was on the 30th of May, 1869, that Colonel Sprague was united in marriage to Miss Eliza A. Cunningham, who was born in Ohio, in August, 1848. A great lover of music the Colonel has given much attention to composition. He set to band music the words of the popular song, Dixie, written by Daniel D. Emmet, at Mr. Emmet's request, and he likewise composed both words and music for My Dear Ohio Home and the Great White Throne, and many others of equal popularity. In this regard he has received complimentary letters from such men as the lamented President McKinley, General Corbin, General Miles and others.

Prominent in fraternal circles, Colonel Sprague is a valued member of the Society of the Ohio Commandery of Military Order of Foreign Wars, member of the Ohio Association Ex-prisoners of War and is senior vice commander of the department of Ohio, G. A. R. He is a Mason in high standing, belonging to Al Koran Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, is past eminent commander of Norwalk Commandery, No. 18, K. T., and past exalted ruler of Norwalk Lodge, No. 730, B. P. O. E., while he also holds membership relations with the Grand Army of the Republic, Loyal Legion, Odd Fellows, United Commercial Travelers, Red Men, Royal Arcanum, National Union, Ohio Society of New York and the Auto Association of America. His political allegiance is evidenced by the stanch support which he gives to the republican party and his religious faith is indicated by his friendliness to the Presbyterian church.

A man of domestic tastes, Mr. Sprague finds his chief pleasure in ministering to the welfare of his wife, to whom he is most devoted. While his success in the business world is very marked, yet it has been won through strict adherence to honorable methods. In business, as well as in social and fraternal circles, he has shown a talent for leading, and although crowned with wealth, he today stands in the same relation to his fellowmen as he did in early years when struggling for a livelihood, recognizing and appreciating honest purpose and genuine worth and rating the individual by his merits and not by his possessions.

THOMAS HAGAMAN.

The Hagaman family is an old and prominent one in Bronson township and Huron county, representatives of the name having settled here in the days of its early pioneer development. Thomas Hagaman, the subject of this review, fully sustained the reputation that had always been borne by his ancestors and thus the community lost one of its most valued citizens, when, on the 28th of September, 1905, he passed to his final reward.

Mr. Hagaman was born August 20, 1834, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hagaman, residents of Bronson township. He was of Holland descent, his ancestors in both the paternal and maternal lines having come from that country to the United States in an early day. The paternal grandparents were Thomas and Nellie (Burnett) Hagaman, the former born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. It was their son John who became the father of our subject. Coming to Huron county in early times, John Hagaman settled on a tract of land in Bronson township and this property has been in possession of the family to the present time. He died in 1870. The only surviving sister of our subject is Mrs. Isabel Snook, a resident of Huron county.

Thomas Hagaman was reared on the old home farm, which later became his property. He was early trained to the work of the fields, assisting his father during the season of plowing, planting and harvesting, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the district schools. He always followed the occupation to which he had been reared and in the operation of the old home place carried on the work of development and improvement that had been begun by his father. He

became not only a successful man but was one of the highly esteemed citizens of his community. The Hagemans have ever been known for their probity and uprightness and Thomas Hagaman fully sustained that reputation.

Mr. Hagaman was twice married. His first wife bore the maiden name of Mary E. Woodruff and her death occurred January 2, 1879. She left two children, a son, John E. Hageman, of Cleveland; and daughter, Mrs. Jessie Kennedy, of Oberlin, Ohio. Mr. Hagaman was again married in 1895, his second union being with Mrs. Melissa (Severns) Henry, who was born October 13, 1853. By her former marriage she has three children who survive, namely: Frederick Severns Henry; Nellie G. Henry; and Elizabeth Henry, now the wife of C. M. Crawford. All completed the high-school course in Norwalk and the son spent one year in Kenyon College.

Loyal to the best interests of his country, Mr. Hagaman enlisted in the Civil war as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he did valiant service. His religious faith was manifest by his membership in the Congregational church, in which he served as a deacon. He was a true friend, and thus a deep feeling of sadness spread throughout the community when on the 28th of September, 1905, it was announced that he had passed from this life, but while those who knew him remain, his memory will be cherished, not so much on account of the success which he achieved in business but because of his life of helpfulness, of good cheer, of broad sympathy, and his deep interest in and labors for the benefit of his fellowmen. His life span covered seventy-one years—years of helpfulness to his community, of loyalty to his country, and of devotion to his family and friends.

SAMUEL SHERMAN.

Samuel Sherman, who since April, 1901, has lived retired in Monroeville, was formerly actively and successfully identified with agricultural interests and is still the owner of three hundred acres of land in Huron county. His birth occurred in Huntingtonshire, England, on the 9th of March, 1838, his parents being William A. and Sarah (Lane) Sherman. In 1852 he crossed the Atlantic in company with his father and settled in Huron county, Ohio. At the end of a year, however, the father returned to England, leaving his son Samuel with Mr. Husted, for whom the lad was to work until he had attained his majority. He proved so capable and diligent an apprentice, however, that when he was twenty years of age Mr. Husted gave him one hundred dollars and told him that his term of indenture would be considered ended. He then operated the Husted farm for a couple of years and subsequently was engaged in the cultivation of rented land for a time.

By dint of untiring labor and close economy he at length accumulated sufficient capital with which to purchase a farm of his own and in 1865 bought thirty-five acres of land from George Sawyer, which has since remained in his possession and is known as the old Sherman homestead. As time passed and his financial resources increased he added to his acreage until he became the owner of



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL SHERMAN

considerable land in this county, winning wide and favorable recognition as a most successful and energetic agriculturist. In April, 1901, he put aside the active work of the fields and has since lived retired in Monroeville, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. He still owns three hundred acres of rich and productive land in this county and has justly won the proud American title of a self-made man, for the prosperity which has crowned his labors has come entirely as the result of earnest, persistent and well directed effort, keen discrimination and capable management.

On the 28th of May, 1860, Mr. Sherman was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Ann Carpenter, who was born in England on the 20th of March, 1843, her father being William Carpenter, likewise a native of that country. In 1858 she accompanied her uncle and aunt on their emigration to the new world and took up her abode in Huron county, Ohio. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children, as follows: George, who is mentioned on another page of this work; John D.; Samuel, a sketch of whom also appears in this volume; Edward A., who married Miss Minnie Rape and makes his home in Lyme township; Joseph H., deceased, who wedded Miss Minnie Seible; Luella, residing in Lyme township, who gave her hand in marriage to John Koch, by whom she has two sons, Melvin T. and Forest William; and Alice, at home. The wife and mother was called to her final rest on Christmas day of 1908 and her demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for her many good traits of heart and mind had won her an extensive circle of warm friends. Mr. Sherman is a vestryman in the Episcopal church, the teachings of which permeate his life. He has now made his home within the borders of this county for fifty-seven years and that his career has ever been above reproach is indicated by the fact that he is best liked where best known.

ELMER SAMUEL BURRAS.

An excellent farm of eighty acres in Fairfield township pays tribute to the care and labor of Elmer Samuel Burras, who has been in possession of the property since 1900. His birth occurred in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 3d of August, 1876, his parents being Edgar and Eudolpha (Jennings) Burras, who were likewise natives of Fairfield township, this county. Their children were three in number: Minnie, Edwin and Elmer, all of whom are now married.

With the exception of two years spent at the carpenter's trade, Elmer Samuel Burras has devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career. In the year 1900 he purchased his present farm of eighty acres, and the crops which he annually harvests bring to him a gratifying income.

On the 18th of November, 1900, Mr. Burras was united in marriage to Miss Lena Lamoureux, who was born in Fairfield township, this county, on the 5th of December, 1879. Her parents, Homer and Emma Lamoureux, reared a family of six children, namely: Harry, William, George, Verna, Ruth and Lena. Mr.

and Mrs. Burras are now the parents of three daughters and two sons, as follows: Dorothy, Marjorie, Merle, Myles and Leslie.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Burras has given his political allegiance to the republican party and is now serving as a member of the school board. He belongs to the Grange and is also a devoted member of the Methodist church, the teachings of which he exemplifies in his daily life. In the community where they have always resided both he and his wife are well known and highly esteemed, having ever displayed those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard.

GEORGE BOWEN.

George Bowen, who is well known in Clarksfield township as a prosperous farmer, a miller and a man of affairs, was born May 29, 1847, in Norwich township, Huron county, Ohio, and is the son of John and Christine (Robinson) Bowen. The mother was a native of Coshocton county, but the father's place of birth was New Jersey. He was a farmer and an extensive landowner, was prosperous in his affairs, and took an active part in the public administration of local government. In addition to his large farming interests, he was an extensive manufacturer of bricks and a mason and contractor for brick work construction, and when he died, in August, 1880, he was mourned as a man whose efforts had not only brought him success, but whose influence had been good in the community where he lived. When he married he was living in Coshocton county, moving to Norwich township, Huron county, in 1836. A family of four sons and four daughters was born to him and his wife: Martha J., Agnes, John M., William K., Henry C., Elizabeth C., George and Malinda C. Of these Martha J. and Henry C. have passed away. Mrs. Bowen survived her husband twenty years to the very month, dying in August, 1900.

George Bowen spent his youth on his father's farm and was educated in the public schools of Norwich. He married at the age of twenty-three and engaged in farming in Norwich township, which remained his home until 1907, when he moved to Clarksfield and purchased the Clarksfield Gristmill and entered upon milling as a business. The mill he bought was the oldest in point of service in Huron county, for it was built seventy-three years ago and has been in general use since. Now, however, the old stone burrs and water power have given way to the roller process and to steam power, and equipped with the best of modern improvements it is well able to take care of the large exchange business that is carried on between the farmers, the latter receiving for their grain, feed and flour. In the two years that Mr. Bowen and his son have had the management of it, it is estimated that it does a larger business than any other mill in the county. Aside from these private interests of his, Mr. Bowen has always evinced a deep concern for the public weal. For a number of years he served his community well as road supervisor and as a member of the board of education, in both of which capacities he allied himself actively with those working for progress and improvement. When called upon to vote, the republican candidate receives his support.

In December, 1870, Mr. Bowen married Miss Alice P. Burdge, the daughter of William and Mary (Miller) Burdge. Her father was a soldier in the Civil war, and up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1904, was a farmer of Norwich township. Mrs. Burdge is still living. Two sons, Edison E. and Roscoe, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bowen. Both are residents of Clarksfield township and are mainly concerned with agriculture. The elder was born June 16, 1876, and growing up under his father's care entered upon farming, which he pursued until 1907, when he engaged with the latter in the grain and milling business. On the 16th of June, 1901, he was married to Miss Grace E. Brown, the daughter of Franklin H. and Ella (Wood) Brown, of Norwich township, and is now the father of three children, Joy, Bertha and Herbert. He is a fine business man, a republican in politics, and very active in all that concerns the welfare of the community. Roscoe Bowen was born on the 1st of November, 1880, and has followed the life of a farmer. He was united in marriage to Miss Cora Sees, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin C. Sees, September 4, 1902, and the couple have been blessed with two daughters, Gladys and Mary. Like his brother and father, Roscoe Bowen has always been a republican, and like them also he is a good citizen, closely identified with the best interests of the township.

Mr. Bowen is a loyal Mason and a member of Attica Lodge, No. 367. In past years he also belonged to several other organizations, to Norwich Grange, to the Patrons of Husbandry and to the Good Templars, and has ever been a strong temperance advocate. He and his family affiliate with the United Brethren church and have always been supporters of all measures calculated to uplift humanity and better conditions morally, socially and commercially. Hence he and his two sons are among the best citizens that Clarksfield township can claim and by their lives give an example to others.

WILLIAM HAMILTON McPHERSON, JR.

William Hamilton McPherson, Jr., a well known and successful agriculturist and stock breeder of Fairfield township, is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and one and a fourth acres. His birth occurred in Greenfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 1st of January, 1875, his parents being W. H. and Lucy (Wheeler) McPherson, who were also natives of Greenfield township. The paternal grandfather, James McPherson, came to the United States from Ireland, taking up his abode in Greenfield township, this county. Unto him and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Ann Jane Arthur, were born three children: John, George and William Hamilton. The maternal grandfather of our subject was John Henry Wheeler. W. H. McPherson, Sr., the father of the gentleman whose name initiates this review, was twice married and by his first wife had three children, namely: Arthur, Scott and William Hamilton. Subsequent to the death of his first wife he wedded Miss Maggie Much, residing near Bellevue, and their union was blessed with two children, Clyde and Glenn.

In his youthful days William H. McPherson, Jr., attended the district schools and also assisted in the work of the home farm, so that he early became familiar

with all the varied duties that claim the attention of the agriculturist. In the year 1904 he came from Greenfield township to Fairfield township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and one and a fourth acres, to the cultivation of which he has since devoted his time and energies. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he is also engaged in the breeding of Delaine sheep, Duroc hogs and Jersey cattle, both branches of his business returning to him a gratifying annual income. He is the groom for "Fancher," the imported Percheron stallion owned by the North Fairfield Percheron Horse Company.

On the 8th of April, 1896, Mr. McPherson was united in marriage to Miss Cora Lucile Fitch, a native of Genesee county, Michigan, and a daughter of Edgar and Letta (Ward) Fitch. Her father still survives and lives in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Fitch reared a family of five daughters and one son, as follows: Nina, Lena, Bessie, Lucy, Letta and Archie. One child is deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McPherson have been born the following children: Carl, Everett, Nina Pearl, Lester and Edith Margaret. Mr. McPherson, who has made his home in Huron county throughout his entire life, is well entitled to mention in this volume as one of its prosperous and enterprising farmers and stockmen and also as a worthy representative of a family that has figured in the annals of the county from pioneer times down to the present.

GEORGE BARMAN.

George Barman, who owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres in Peru township, is numbered among the worthy native sons of Huron county, his birth having occurred in a little log cabin in Peru township on the 15th of June, 1856. His parents, Philip and Mary (Fisher) Barman, were both natives of Germany. When seventeen years of age the father accompanied his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bradous Barman, on their emigration to the United States, the family home being established in the German settlement in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio. The grandfather erected a log cabin and set himself to the task of clearing the timber from a tract of sixty acres which he had purchased, for at that time this entire region was still largely wild and undeveloped. Both he and his wife continued to reside here until called to their final rest.

As before stated, Philip Barman, the father of our subject, was a young man of seventeen years on his arrival in Peru township and here he made his home until the time of his demise, which occurred in June, 1887, when he had attained the age of seventy-four years. He devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and owned a farm of fifty acres in the southern portion of Peru township. His wife, who had made the voyage to this country in early life in company with her brother, passed away in 1892 at the age of seventy-four years. Unto this worthy couple were born eight children, namely: John, who is a resident of Peru township; Philip, whose demise occurred when he was fifty-six years of age; Mary Ann, the deceased wife of Thomas Bishop; George, of this review; Frank, living in Peru township; Kathryn, who is

the widow of Peter Hipp and makes her home in Peru township; Louisa, who is deceased; and Rose, the wife of Alf Remelly, of Peru township.

George Barman obtained his education in the district and Catholic schools and when not busy with his text-books gave his father the benefit of his services in the cultivation of the old home farm, thus early gaining practical knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil. General agricultural pursuits have always claimed his attention and that his choice of a life work was a wise one is proven by the gratifying measure of prosperity which has rewarded his efforts along this line. In 1902 he bought the farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres on which he now resides from Alfonzo Smith and has made a number of substantial improvements on the property. The neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner, whose well directed labors are annually rewarded by rich harvests.

On the 19th of June, 1883, Mr. Barman was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Hipp, a native of Peru township and a daughter of Andrew and Regina Hipp, both of whom were born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Barman now have a family of six children, as follows: Andrew, living in Ridgfield township, who wedded Katie Wise, by whom he has one child, Clarence; and Benjamin, Charles, Elmer, Roman and Clatus, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Barman has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy and has capably served his fellow townsmen in the positions of road supervisor and school director. In religious faith he is a Catholic. Both he and his wife are widely and favorably known throughout the community in which their entire lives have been passed and well merit the regard and esteem which is uniformly accorded them.

ALBERT G. BEDFORD.

The name of Bedford has been known in Huron county from pioneer times, and he whose name introduces this record is a worthy representative of the family. He is a native of the county, his birth having occurred on a farm in Townsend township, December 23, 1865, and is a son of Robert and Phoebe (Stacy) Bedford. The father followed farming throughout his entire life, and was a well known pioneer of his section of the county. His death occurred many years ago.

Albert G. Bedford, whose name introduces this review, acquired his education in the district schools of Townsend township and remained under the parental roof until he had attained the age of twenty years, during which time he had been thoroughly trained to habits of industry, assisting in the care and operation of the home farm up to that time. Feeling that he might be more independent if he ventured out in the business world, he accordingly started out for himself but his father's death occurring shortly afterward, he was needed by his widowed mother to care for the farm and, returning home, he took up the responsible duties of operating his mother's land. After about two years thus engaged he once more started out for himself, being employed at farm labor until the time of his marriage, after which he worked for his father-in-law by the month for a time. Then, feeling jus-

tified in engaging in farming on his own account, he rented a tract of land, which he operated until 1902. He had in the meantime saved a sum sufficient to invest in land and thus became the owner of ninety-four acres in Hartford Ridge, which he occupied until March, 1909.

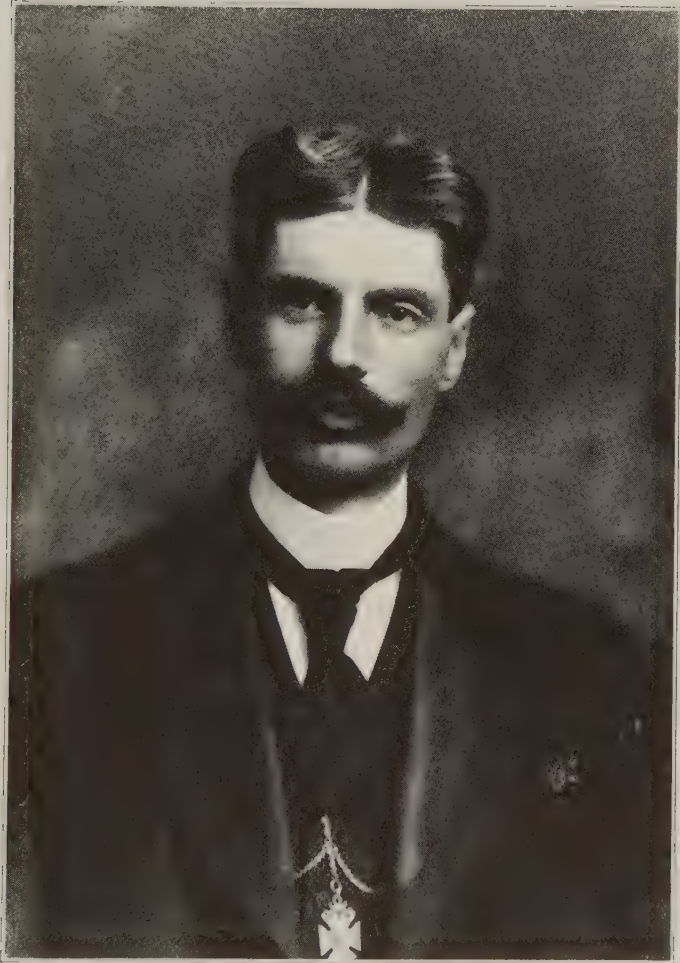
It was in March, 1909, that he was appointed by the infirmity directors as superintendent of the Huron county infirmity, and his popularity is evidenced by the fact that he received not only the support of his own party but the support of many republicans as well, he being the first democrat ever appointed to this office in Huron county. This farm comprises two hundred and four acres, situated about a mile and a half south-east of Norwalk. The home contains from sixty-five to seventy inmates, most of whom are very feeble. Mr. Bedford has already far out-reached the expectations of his fellow citizens in the care and management of this infirmity, and it being an instance of where the position sought the man, rather than the man seeking the position, the public has every reason to feel that their choice has been a wise one and they have placed the right man in the right place. In his short term of service Mr. Bedford has made some changes which are proving very beneficial and will also be a saving to tax-payers. By his courteous treatment and kindly manner he has won the good will of each and every inmate, while his estimable wife, a woman of most kindly disposition, cares for the household in a most able manner, an air of neatness and cleanliness pervading the various departments over which she has charge.

It was in 1870 that Mr. Bedford wedded Miss Dora E. Minor, a daughter of Oliver Minor, of Hartland township. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Bedford has been blessed with two children: Clive A., who was born in 1896; and May C., born in 1905. Mr. Bedford deserves much praise for what he has accomplished in a business sense, for he started out in the humble capacity of a farm hand and today is the owner of a good tract of land and is also supervising interests which none but those possessing only the most charitable nature and excellent managerial qualities could so capably control.

F. G. LAIBLE.

F. G. Laible, who is engaged in the undertaking business in Norwalk, was born in Michigan on the 29th of March, 1875. His father, George F. Laible, was likewise a native of that state, born on the 22d of February, 1845. He devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits and died in 1893. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Josephine Russell, was a native of Lorain county, Ohio, and a daughter of Daniel Wright Russell, one of the pioneers of that county who came to this state from New York. Mrs. Laible still survives her husband and is now living in Norwalk.

In the country schools F. G. Laible acquainted himself with the common branches of English learning and afterward continued his studies at Owosso, Michigan. On putting aside his text-books he learned the bicycle business, worked in a bicycle factory for a time and afterward embarked in the same line of business on his own account in Owosso, Michigan. In 1897 he went to



F. G. LAIBLE

Grand Rapids, where he learned the undertaking business and in 1901 he came to Norwalk where he joined his uncle, Addison Sigourney, in the conduct of an undertaking establishment on Benedict avenue. After a brief period A. C. Holiday purchased Mr. Sigourney's interest and became a partner. This relation was maintained until 1907, when Mr. Holiday withdrew from the business and Mr. Laible became sole proprietor. He has since continued in this field of labor and has a well appointed undertaking establishment, which is liberally patronized by those who need his services. He also conducts a retail flower store, making his own floral designs in conjunction with his undertaking business. This has proven to be a profitable venture and a clever idea.

In October, 1904, Mr. Laible married Miss Dorothy E. Zuick, a daughter of John Daniel Zuick, who came to Huron county during the early girlhood of Mrs. Laible. Unto them have been born two sons, George Forest, whose birth occurred July 19, 1905; and John Brandt, born June 20, 1909.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Laible is a Mason, holding membership in Mount Vernon Lodge and in the Knight Templar Commandery. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Maccabees, while his religious faith is manifest in his membership in the Baptist church. He started out in life with nothing to aid him at the outset of his career, but by persistent and earnest purpose he has made steady progress and is now conducting a profitable business.

JOHN TERRY WALSWORTH.

John Terry Walsworth is a wide-awake and enterprising farmer, owning and operating a tract of land of one hundred acres in Fairfield township. He was born in Peru township, Huron county, on the 23d of October, 1854, his parents being Philander and Lucy (Reeves) Walsworth, the former a native of New York. Subsequent to their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Philander Walsworth came to Ohio and here established their home and reared their family, numbering four sons and one daughter, namely: Elijah C., Joel P., Daniel F., John T. and Mary Elizabeth.

John Terry Walsworth left the parental roof at the age of eleven years and went to live with Harvey Pierce, of Peru township, with whom he remained until he had attained his majority, receiving his schooling and two hundred dollars in cash as remuneration for his services to this gentleman. A man of strong purpose and unfaltering energy, he then resolutely set to work in the hope of one day owning a farm of his own and that his efforts have met with a just reward is indicated by the fact that he is now in possession of a well improved and valuable tract of land of one hundred acres in Fairfield township and is comfortably situated financially. He purchased this property about nine years ago and has been successfully and energetically engaged in its cultivation and improvement to the present time, annually harvesting good crops which find a ready sale on the market. From an early age he has depended upon his own resources and has won the proud American title of a self-made man.

On the 29th of November, 1880, Mr. Walsworth was united in marriage to Miss Alice E. Collingwood, whose birth occurred on the 7th of February, 1852, her parents being Jonathan and Eliza (Munsel) Collingwood, of Hartland township, Huron county. Her father was born in York county, Pennsylvania, but her mother came from Gaylon, Wayne county, New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Collingwood were born eight children, as follows: James, Amos, Elmer, Harvey, Martha, Alice E., Rebecca, and one who died in infancy, Betsey Ann.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Walsworth belong to the Baptist church at North Fairfield and the former has sung in the choir during the entire period of his membership in the church, being the only tenor in the chorus. He has also served as a member of the finance committee at different times and takes an active and helpful interest in the various departments of the church work. He has an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which he has made his home from his birth to the present time, for in all life's relations he has been true to high and honorable principles and has never faltered in a choice between right and wrong but has always endeavored to follow a course that his judgment and his conscience have sanctioned.

MARTIN BEEBE, M. D.

Dr. Martin Beebe, whose demise occurred on the 28th of March, 1890, was successfully engaged in the practice of medicine in Huron county for more than two decades and at the same time also superintended his farming interests in Clarksfield township. His birth occurred at Dover, Lenawee county, Michigan, on the 1st of September, 1836, his parents being George and Vesta (Porter) Beebe. They made their way from Massachusetts to Michigan at an early day, becoming pioneer settlers of the Peninsular state. About the year 1840 they came to this state, taking up their abode in Norwich township, Huron county.

Brought to this county by his parents in childhood days, Martin Beebe obtained his primary education in the district schools of Norwich township and later attended a select school at Norwalk. In 1863 he entered the Western Reserve Medical College at Cleveland and was graduated from that institution with the degree of M. D. in 1865. On the 27th of December, 1865, he had wedded Miss Mary L. Barrett, who was born October 29, 1843, a daughter of Augustus and Clarissa (Cochran) Barrett, of Clarksfield township. Mr. Barrett was a native of Monroe county, New York, and his wife of Vermont. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Beebe were born two sons, namely: Augustus C., whose birth occurred January 12, 1867, and who now resides in Cleveland, where he is engaged in business; and George P., born October 11, 1871, who resides on the old family homestead in Clarksfield township.

Subsequent to his marriage Dr. Beebe lived in Wakeman for a year and also spent a similar period in Oberlin but did not engage in the practice of his profession. He then returned to the college for a year's review, afterward took up his abode on his farm in Clarksfield township, this county, and began the practice of medicine. He continued as a successful and able representative of his chosen calling until the time of his death and became the loved family physician in many a

household. In addition to his labors as a medical practitioner he also superintended his farm and in both his professional and agricultural interests met with a gratifying measure of prosperity.

Dr. Beebe gave his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democracy and was active in public affairs. His fraternal relations were with the Masons, while religiously he was identified with the Disciple church, being a valued and exemplary member of both organizations. He was a man of decided literary tastes and attainments and stood high in the estimation of men in all walks of life. He was called to his final rest on the 28th of March, 1890, when fifty-four years of age, and his remains were interred at New London, Ohio. Uniformly loved and respected, his loss came as a deep blow to his large circle of friends as well as to his immediate family.

Subsequent to her husband's demise Mrs. Beebe managed the estate for some years with singular ability but in later years the care and responsibility incident to its supervision has largely devolved upon her younger son, George P. Beebe. The latter is also engaged in the breeding of thoroughbred draft and coach horses, having a wide and enviable reputation in this connection. The buildings on the old home farm are all modern and well adapted for their several uses and in fact everything about the place presents a neat and thrifty appearance. The residence, modern in its construction and furnishings, is one of the most attractive country homes in the entire county.

On the 24th of November, 1892, George P. Beebe was united in marriage to Miss Winifred Rowland, a daughter of William and Rosetta (Peck) Rowland. Both the Rowland and Peck families were early pioneer settlers of this county and became prominent and influential residents here. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beebe have been born two children, Charles A. and Mary R. Politically Mr. Beebe is a stalwart advocate of the republican party, while fraternally he is identified with the Eagles.

Mrs. Beebe, the widow of Dr. Martin Beebe, is a devoted and faithful member of the Disciples church, taking an active and helpful interest in its work. She lives on the old homestead farm in Clarksfield township with her son and his family, and enjoys in unqualified measure the kindly regard and friendship of all who know her.

JOHN FEICHTNER.

John Feichtner, owning and operating a rich and productive farm of sixty-nine acres in Fairfield township, was born in New Haven township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 13th of August, 1878, his parents being George and Eliza (Layer) Feichtner. The father, who was a native of Crawford county, Ohio, took up his abode in New Haven township, this county, about 1876. Unto him and his wife were born four children: John, Albert, Mary and Charles, all of whom still survive.

John Feichtner attended the district schools in pursuit of an education and when not busy with his text-books assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm, thus early gaining practical knowledge of the best methods of tiling the soil and caring for the crops. For the past four years he has devoted his time and en-

ergies to the cultivation of his farm of sixty-nine acres in Fairfield township, from which he annually derives a good income, the well tilled fields responding to his care and labor in golden harvests.

In 1905 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Feichtner and Miss Blanche Newman, whose birth occurred in New Haven township, this county, in 1885. By this union there are two children, Ray and Dale. The parents are well known throughout the community in which they have always resided and are young people of the highest respectability, whose good qualities of heart and mind have won for them the confidence and friendly regard of all with whom they have come in contact.

BENJAMIN BOWERSOX.

Benjamin Bowersox, who is actively and successfully engaged in the cultivation of his farm of thirty-eight acres in Fairfield township, was born in Pennsylvania on the 4th of July, 1842, his parents being Jacob and Sophia (Walter) Bowersox, who spent their entire lives in the Keystone state. Benjamin Bowersox, who has devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career, came to Ohio in the year 1861. He now owns a well improved and productive farm of thirty-eight acres in Fairfield township and annually harvests good crops which return to him a gratifying income.

In 1865 Mr. Bowersox was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Walter, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of George and Kate (Weaver) Walter, who were likewise born in that state. Unto our subject and his wife have been born seven children, namely: Mahala, Della, Alice, Sophia, Hattie, Mandy and Katy. They have also reared an adopted son, Walter Bear.

Politically Mr. Bowersox is a stalwart advocate of the republican party and is now capably discharging the duties devolving upon him in the position of township supervisor. As he has lived for many years in Huron county, he has a wide acquaintance here and his friends know him as an enterprising agriculturist and a man of genuine worth.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PALM.

General agricultural pursuits command the attention of Benjamin Franklin Palm, who owns and cultivates a farm of seventy-five acres in Fairfield township. He was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of October, 1854, his parents being David Logan and Ann (Delancy) Palm, the former a native of Juniata county and the latter of Perry county, Pennsylvania. The paternal grandparents, Benjamin and Betsy (Nicholson) Palm, were of German descent. George and Hannah (Rice) Delancy, the maternal grandparents of our subject, were natives of Perry county, Pennsylvania. Unto David L. and Ann (Delancy) Palm were born the following children: George, Benjamin Franklin, James, Elmer, Mary, Rebecca, Clara, Sadie and Joanna.

Benjamin Franklin Palm acquired his education in the schools of his native county and there continued to make his home until the year 1881, when he came to Huron county, Ohio, taking up his abode in Greenwich township. Subsequently he resided in Ripley township for a time and then came to Fairfield township, where he has since remained. During the first year of his residence in this county he followed the carpenter's trade but has since given his attention to general farming, in which line of activity he has won a creditable measure of prosperity. He purchased his present farm of seventy-five acres in October, 1899, and has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and improvement.

On the 30th of October, 1879, Mr. Palm was united in marriage to Miss Maggie A. Noss, whose birth occurred on the 13th of December, 1856, her parents being John G. and Maggie (Millikin) Noss, natives of Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandparents were Jacob and Sarah Jane Noss, while the maternal grandparents were William and Nancy (Beal) Millikin. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Palm have been born two children. Mary Bertha, whose birth occurred in 1880, is the wife of George Parrott, of Fairfield township. Ira Grover, who was born on the 2d of February, 1883, learned the upholstering trade in early manhood but now devotes his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Palm are devoted and consistent members of the Methodist church at North Fairfield and have gained an extensive circle of friends throughout the county in which they have now resided for almost three decades.

E. A. SUTTON.

E. A. Sutton, cashier of the Home Savings & Banking Company at Chicago Junction, was born in Greenwich township, Huron county, April 2, 1872. He is a son of Charles A. Sutton, who was born in the same township, July 4, 1844, and is still living on the farm where his birth occurred, being one of the representatives and respected agriculturists of the community. The grandparents were Aranson and Emeline (Brady) Sutton. The former was born April 1, 1802, and with two companions—his twin brother Alanson and James Carver—he made his way westward from New York state to Ohio about 1824. They spent the first night in Greenwich township, Huron county, with the family of Willis Smith, who then lived about a mile east of the village of Greenwich. The three young men took up a tract of land in Ruggles township, now included within Ashland county, and began clearing the place. Throughout his remaining days the grandfather carried on general farming in this county.

His son, Charles A. Sutton, was reared to general agricultural pursuits and determined to engage in farming as a life work. He still resides upon the old homestead and the splendid appearance of the fields indicates his careful supervision and his progressive methods. Although he is not a politician in the sense of office seeking, he has been given several local positions, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity. In early manhood he wedded Annie E. Ellis, also a native of Greenwich township, Huron county, the Ellis family being numbered among the respected and prominent old families of that section.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for E. A. Sutton in his boyhood and youth. He worked in the fields during the summer months and in the winter seasons attended school. He continued his education in the Greenwich high school and also in Oberlin University and throughout his business career he has been identified with banking. He was first associated with the Oberlin Banking Company, there remaining for a year and a half, when he removed to Berlin Heights and became assistant cashier for the Berlin Heights Banking Company, filling that position for eight years or until December, 1899. He then came to Chicago Junction and was one of the organizers of the Home Savings & Banking Company. He was also elected a director and cashier, which office he still fills, and has thus been active in executive control of the institution, which has come to be regarded as one of the safe and reliable moneyed enterprises of the county. Mr. Sutton is conservative in his business methods and widely recognized as an able and popular official, serving well the patrons of the bank, while at all times he is uniform in his courtesy and pleasant in manner. For the past sixteen years he has represented the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States in New York city, which is one of the largest financial institutions of the world. Mr. Sutton has upwards of one million dollars in force, which is an indication of his success for this company.

In November, 1896, Mr. Sutton was married to Miss Elizabeth Romell, a native of Berlin Heights, Ohio, and they now have two children, Howard Ellis and Harry Romell. The parents are well known socially in Chicago Junction and have a circle of friends here almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance. Mr. Sutton is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and is prominent in Masonry, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is a member of Golden Rule Lodge, No. 562, A. F. & A. M.; Golden Rule Chapter, No. 167, R. A. M.; and Toledo Consistory. He is an exemplary representative of the craft, is a public-spirited citizen and a most reliable business man.

EDWIN C. WOODWORTH.

Edwin C. Woodworth, who owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred and sixteen acres in Fairfield township, is numbered among the progressive and representative agriculturists of the community. His birth occurred in North Fairfield, Huron county, Ohio, on the 19th of May, 1858. His paternal grandfather, Jonathan Woodworth, was one of the early pioneer settlers of this county, taking up his abode within its borders in 1834. He entered a tract of timber land in New Haven township and, being a man of untiring perseverance and resolute spirit, gradually transformed it into a rich and productive farming property. It has since been known as the Woodworth homestead and comprises ninety-three acres of valuable land.

Herman Woodworth, the father of our subject, was born in Trumansburg, Tompkins county, New York, on the 18th of April, 1830, and was but four years of age when brought by his parents to this state. In early life he learned the trade of a blacksmith, with which line of activity he was successfully identified



MR. AND MRS. E. C. WOODWORTH

until 1907, when he was obliged to abandon his work because of failing eyesight. The period of his residence in this county now covers three-fourths of a century and he is therefore largely familiar with its annals from a pioneer epoch down to the present time. He is a most highly respected and esteemed citizen of his community, his upright and honorable life having won him the regard and friendship of all with whom he has been associated.

Edwin C. Woodworth obtained his preliminary education at Fairfield and afterward entered the university at Berea, Ohio, but was obliged to return home before completing the course. For several years he was identified with educational interests as a school teacher but in 1882 purchased the farm of one hundred and sixteen acres in Fairfield township on which he now resides. He has won a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity as a tiller of the soil, for the methods which he follows are practical and at the same time are in keeping with ideas of progressive agriculture.

On the 21st of March, 1882, Mr. Woodworth was united in marriage to Miss Hattie L. Sillman, who was born in Ripley township, Huron county, on the 29th of August, 1861, a daughter of Solomon Sillman. Unto them have been born eight children, namely: Iva B., Grace L., Ross S., Myrtle L., Adin M., George B., H. Corlette and Alton E. The children have been educated at the district and Union schools and the eldest daughter completed her studies in Tiffin.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Woodworth has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party, being convinced that its principles are most conducive to good government. In religious faith his wife is a Methodist, while fraternally he is identified with Fairfield Lodge, No. 261, F. & A. M. Both have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives and well merit the regard and esteem which is uniformly accorded them.

CORNELIUS W. ANDERSON.

Cornelius W. Anderson, one of the most prominent and respected citizens of Norwalk, has served as vice-president of the Citizens Banking Company since its organization. He is a native of Hackensack, New Jersey, his birth having there occurred on the 1st of September, 1869. His maternal grandfather, Cornelius Wortendyke, was the originator and founder of the Knickerbocker Ice Company of New York city and became a heavy stockholder in the concern. James Anderson, the father of our subject, did active duty in the Civil war as quartermaster sergeant of the Forty-seventh Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry, being honorably discharged at the end of his three years' term of enlistment. His name is inscribed on the soldiers' monument at Hackensack, New Jersey. He was for many years engaged in the general commission business as a member of the firm of W. H. B. Totten & Company, of New York city.

Cornelius W. Anderson received his preliminary education in the schools of Norwalk, coming here when a lad of ten years. Here he has since made his home, being widely recognized as a most substantial, enterprising and progressive citizen

of the community. Throughout his entire business career he has been engaged in the buying and selling of real estate, improving the property before disposing of it. He was likewise one of the organizers of the Citizens Banking Company of Norwalk and has acted as vice-president thereof from the beginning. The institution opened its doors for business on the 12th of June, 1902, and paid a dividend of four per cent the first year, setting aside two thousand dollars. The company has since paid an annual dividend of eight per cent and now has a surplus of thirty thousand dollars. Mr. Anderson has always been one of the bank's heaviest stockholders, while his keen discrimination, sound judgment and excellent executive ability have constituted important elements in its successful conduct. His home place comprises fifty acres within the city limits of Norwalk and the fine buildings thereon are thoroughly equipped with all modern improvements. The spacious residence is surrounded by an immense, well kept lawn, while a beautiful flower garden also greatly enhances the attractiveness of the place. Mr. Anderson is likewise the owner of a farm of one hundred and ten acres within a mile of Norwalk and at one time was quite an extensive breeder of high grade trotting horses, owning one with a mark of 2.11 $\frac{1}{4}$.

In 1893 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Anderson and Miss Katherine Lawrence, who was born in Norwalk, Ohio, on the 14th of December, 1872, a daughter of J. P. Lawrence. By this union there are two children: Lawrence W., whose birth occurred July 31, 1897; and Margaret, whose natal day was September 4, 1900.

Mr. Anderson is a stalwart adherent of the republican party and when a young man of thirty-four years was elected to the office of mayor of Norwalk, capably and satisfactorily discharging the important duties devolving upon him in that connection for a period of four years and eight months. He was the youngest man who had ever been at the head of municipal affairs in Norwalk and previous to his accession to the mayoralty had served for several years as a member of the council. In November, 1909, he was elected a member of the board of education. His religious faith is indicated by his attendance at the Episcopal church. In whatever relation of life we find him—in political circles, in business or in social relations—he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman, whose worth well merits the high regard which is uniformly given him.

LYMAN ASHLEY.

Lyman Ashley, a resident of Chicago, Ohio, who is now living retired from the labors of the farm, is still the owner of valuable farming property, having one hundred and eight acres of land in Greenfield township. He belongs to the native sons of Huron county, having been born here, February 20, 1832, and during a long and useful life has borne his part in the upbuilding of his locality. He is a son of Dennis and Lurany (Bliss) Ashley, and grandson of Luther and Eunice Ashley, and Jacob and Bertha (Brown) Bliss. These grandparents were all natives of Massachusetts. Dennis Ashley was a farmer all his life, and at the time of his death owned sixty-six acres of land in Greenfield township. Lyman Ashley

was the eldest of the children born to him and his wife, the others being: Luther, who lives in California; Lucy and Norah, both of whom are deceased; E. S.; Mary, the deceased wife of Charles McMasters; Deftor and Ward, also deceased; and Charlotte, who married J. A. Wheeler and lives in Huron county. Luther and E. S. served in the Civil war.

Lyman Ashley attended the district schools until he was sixteen, at which time he was forced to leave school and go to work in the mills, learning to be a stationary engineer, which occupation he followed for twelve years. Then, in 1853, he went to Iowa, where he purchased eighty acres of government land for one hundred dollars, and during the two years he owned it, the property increased so in value that he sold it for eleven hundred and seventy-five dollars. Following this sale he returned to Huron county, which has been his home ever since. The farm he owns in Greenfield township has been in his possession since 1856 and for thirty-eight years, he successfully operated it.

On March 29, 1863, Mr. Ashley married Mary L. Young, who was a daughter of the late James and Sarah (Frost) Young, farmers of Huron county. Mrs. Ashley is the older of the two children born to her parents, her brother being Curtis Young, who resides in Miami, Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Ashley are the parents of the following named children: Cora B., who married James Baker, of North Fairfield, and has two children Glen and Nina; Joseph B., who married Lucy Reed and has five children, Eunice, Leo, Lois, Carl and Ralph; and Lewis C., who married Hattie M. Lindley and has two children: Helen M. and Mary Louisa.

Mr. Ashley has served very acceptably as township trustee, school director and road supervisor, and upon six separate occasions has served as jurymen at Norwalk. While a republican in national matters, having cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in local affairs, he uses discrimination, preferring to select the man he deems best fitted for the office, rather than confine himself strictly to party lines. Neither he nor any member of his family are connected with a church organization. They are possessed of many good qualities which have won for them the friendship of the people whose opinion counts, and while enjoying the comforts of life their hard work has gained them, Mr. and Mrs. Ashley are tenderly remembered by their old friends in Greenfield township, where they lived for so many years.

GEORGE S. CATLIN.

After an experience of almost four decades as a successful teacher and school superintendent George S. Catlin has returned to agricultural pursuits, to which he was reared and on the land he owns in Boughtonville, Ripley township, devotes himself to farming and the breeding of brown Leghorn chickens. He was born in Huron county, July 21, 1857, and is a son of Hudson and Theresa (Scobey) Catlin. Of remotely Irish ancestry on both his father's and mother's side, Mr. Catlin is the scion of families which have from the earliest years of the nation participated in its struggles and history. The Scobey's date back to colonial days,

when some of that name were familiar with the Indian wars that involved two European powers in mortal conflict. Theresa Scobey, who became the wife of Hudson Catlin and the mother of George S. Catlin, was born in 1835, in Schuylers county, New York. Her father, Archibald Scobey, who was the son of James Scobey, was born on Long Island in 1800. In his young manhood, he married Miss Sarah Ann Van Valor, a native of Buffalo, New York, and ten years his junior. Of this union, there were born eight children: Andrew, Augustus, Catherine, Jane, Cornelia, Isabel, Margaret and Sarah Ann.

Hudson Catlin, the father of George S. Catlin, comes from a family that was identified with the history of the country on this side of the Alleghenies in the early decades of the last century. He was a son of Burge Catlin, a native of Medina county, Ohio, who entered upon this life in the year 1812. By his wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Eliza Reed (Burge) Catlin, became the father of nine children: Mason, Victor, Allen, Seymour, Cynthia, Anna, Lorene, Eliza and Celia. Hudson Catlin grew to manhood in this state and after the inauguration of the Civil war, responded to the nation's call for troops, enlisting in the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Although his period of services comprised only two years and nine months it was crowded with memorable experiences and numerous engagements. The latter included about twenty battles, while the forty days spent in Libby prison made pictures upon his mind which years did not efface. To Hudson Catlin and wife were born seven children: George, Archibald, Burge, Wayne, Maud, Cora and Mae.

George S. Catlin began his school life in Shiloh, and after completing the prescribed course of study there went to the Mansfield Normal School for further training in the profession which was for many years to be his vocation. Though not a man in years when he undertook to teach his first class, he possessed that insight in human nature and the ability to impart knowledge which is considered the peculiar property of older and more experienced men and from the first was successful in his direction of a school and his control of its pupils. For twenty-five years, in common and graded institutions of popular instruction, Mr. Catlin taught the elementary branches of English education and then, having proved his efficiency as a teacher, he was made a superintendent of schools, in this capacity serving in different cities through a period of eleven years. But the responsibilities were heavy and exhausting, and when an opportunity presented itself, Mr. Catlin retired from his profession and sought rest and recreation on his farm. Always a chicken fancier, he has turned to the breeding of fine brown Leghorns, contemplating engaging in the poultry and egg business on a large scale in the near future.

On the 3d of June, 1882, Mr. Catlin was married to Miss Lovina Truxell. She was born on the farm on which her husband now lives, August 27, 1865, and is a daughter of David and Sarah (Howard) Truxell, both natives of Huron county, for Milan, Ohio, was, at the time of the father's birth in 1819, included within the boundaries of this county. Mrs. Truxell was born in Greenfield township in 1839. David Truxell was of remotely German descent, his grandfather, Christopher Truxell, having been of German birth, although he came to this country, where he died only five months before he reached the hundredth milestone on life's journey. His son William, the father of David Trux-

ell, was born in Pennsylvania about 1792. He married Miss Mary Brubaker, who was born in Virginia in the first year of the nineteenth century. She was the daughter of Christopher Brubaker, a native of Germany, and by her marriage became the mother of eight children: Andrew, Addison, William, James, David, Mary Jane, Elizabeth and Maria. When William Truxell came to Ohio he stopped first at Florence. From there he and five companions walked to Norwalk, where they assisted in erecting the first two buildings of that city. Thence they went to Greenfield township, entirely covered with timber at the time, purchased their farms, cleared their land and put up rude houses for themselves. David Truxell, too, experienced the hardships of pioneer days, for he bought his farm in 1844 and had to remove the timber before it was habitable. He had worked for his father until he was twenty-one, and then, dressed in homespun, set out from home literally to cut his own fortune. He began by chopping trees for the small sum of four dollars and a half an acre and used the money thus gained for the purchase of other clothes. After working for Miner Lawrence for about eight years, he was able to buy his farm. Alone and unaided, he cleared the fields and built his first home, and now though a man well advanced in years is still of strong physique and able to work like many a younger man. The strength of his constitution he attributes to the fact that he has never smoked, chewed, nor drank and tells with pride that he has never been inside a saloon. He has always been a liberal supporter of the churches, has been a professed member since he was eighteen, and in politics is a republican. His first presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, the whig candidate, and when he marked his ballot in the fall of 1908, he had signified his choice of a national executive for the eighteenth time. To Mr. Truxell and wife have been born five children: Lafayette; Nettie; Lovina; one who died in infancy; and Perry.

Mr. and Mrs. Catlin's family consists of three children: Lela, the eldest, who was born January 5, 1884, married W. J. Wilkinson, the North Fairfield agent for the S. N. & M. railroad. Millicent, born March 2, 1885, married F. W. Devoe, and they have two children: Robb and Donna. Clarke, the youngest, born October 27, 1887, is a school teacher.

Mr. Catlin is a member of the Methodist church and is very prominent as a church worker, having been for years the leading spirit in the congregation, a class leader and chorister. Politically, he affiliates with the republican party, and though his own duties have always been heavy, he has found time for the past nine years to render his fellow citizens invaluable service as justice of the peace. A man of undeniable ability, he is also possessed of indefatigable energy and has won the esteem of all who know him.

HARVEY NEWTON MILLER.

Harvey Newton Miller a retired farmer of Ripley township, Huron county, now living in Plymouth, was born in Cass township, Richland county, August 1, 1854, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Noble) Miller. Jacob Miller, a son of John Miller, was born in November, 1827, in Crawford county, Pennsylvania.

His parents having died in his infancy; he was taken by his grandparents who brought him to Ohio in 1832, when he was less than five years old. In his early manhood, he married Miss Mary Noble, who was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, in 1827, and was only two years of age when, in 1829, her parents, Harvey and Maria (Little) Noble, came to Ohio. She was one of a family of six children, John, James, William, Elizabeth and Minerva, being the others.

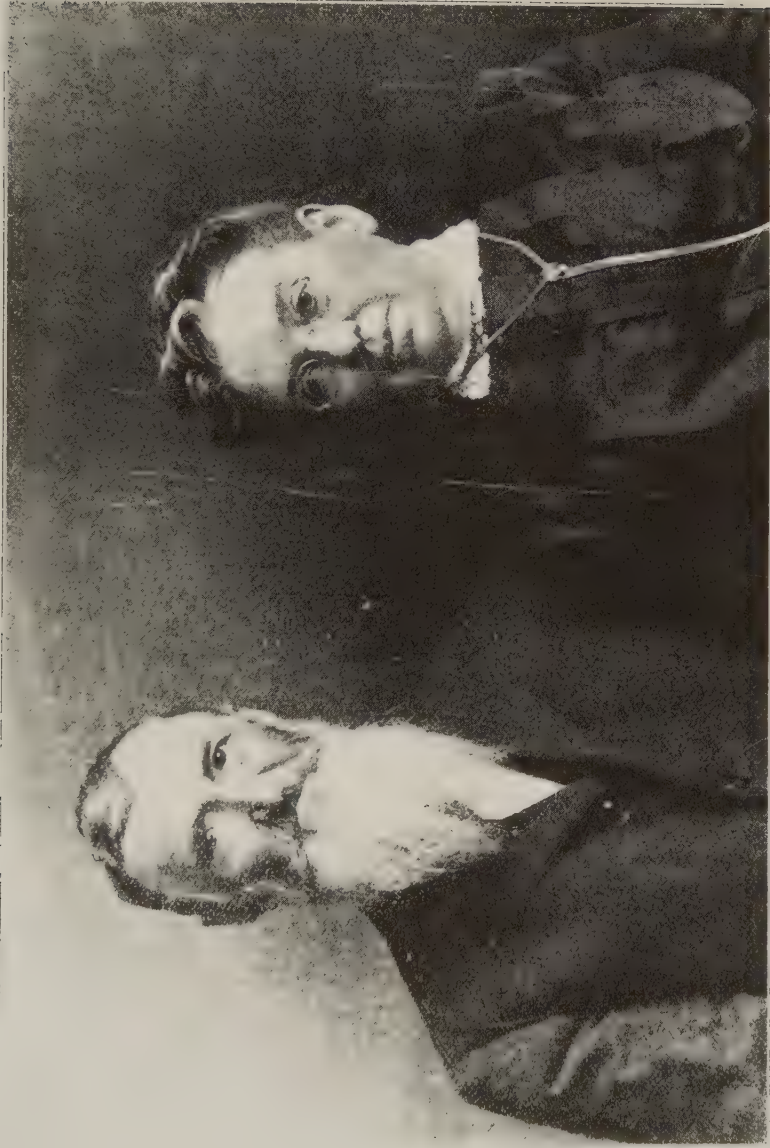
Reared on a farm and working in the fields during the summer vacations, it was but natural that Harvey Newton Miller should devote himself to agriculture. The farm of eighty acres in Ripley township, which he turned over to the care of his son in the spring of 1909, was for twenty-two years his home and the scene of his daily toil. Nine years ago, he purchased the land, for he felt that it was as rich and fertile a tract as could be obtained in that neighborhood, and also the fact that he had worked on it for so many years and knew all the peculiarities of the soil urged him to the step.

On the 1st of August, 1877, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Ella Bowlby, who was born July 8, 1858, in Ripley township and is a daughter of Emanuel and Lucretia (Park) Bowlby. Her parents had five children: David, William, Martha, Addie and Ella. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have three children: Park, was born September 15, 1883. On the 20th of March, 1906, he married Miss Florence Waddington, a daughter of Chory and Elizabeth (Nothacker) Waddington. Oliver, was born January 24, 1890, and is now employed in Lofland's grocery at Plymouth. Frey, the eldest son, was born March 11, 1878, and died May 26, 1883.

Mr. Miller and the members of his family belong to the English Lutheran church and are regular in attendance on its services, and consistent in their practice of its teachings. In politics, he espouses the republican party and invariably casts his vote for its candidate. He is not a politician nor an office seeker, however, though he has rendered valuable service to his fellow citizens as a member of the school board. A man of high principles, whose life has been devoted to conscientious labor, he is well deserving of the rest which he is now enjoying in Plymouth.

SEBASTIAN SCHNURR.

Sebastian Schnurr, who throughout his entire life has been numbered among the worthy and respected residents of Huron county, is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and seventy acres in Ridgefield township, on which he has now made his home for fifty years. He is today one of the oldest native born citizens of the county. His birth occurred in Peru township, on the 4th of November, 1835, his parents being Plasey and Teckla (Barman) Schnurr, both of whom were natives of Baden, Germany. In the year 1829 the father crossed the Atlantic to the United States, taking up his abode in Peru township, this county, where he worked for others for a time and then purchased a farm of thirty acres. He was identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career and had attained the age of sixty-five years when he was called to his final rest, the community thus losing one of its most esteemed and well



MR. AND MRS. SEBASTIAN SCHNURR

known early settlers. His wife was fifty-five years of age when she passed away. Unto this worthy couple were born twelve children, six of whom died in infancy. The others were as follows: Cornelius and Rosie, who are now deceased; Sebastian, of this review; Philip; Katie; and Frances.

As stated above, Sebastian Schnurr has remained a resident of this county throughout his entire life and has always devoted his time and energies to the work of general farming. For the past half century he has made his home on his present farm of one hundred and seventy acres in Ridgefield township and as the years have gone by has won a gratifying measure of prosperity in the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate. The place is well improved and in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates the supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

On the 22d of June, 1863, Mr. Schnurr was joined in wedlock to Miss Emma Friend, a native of Germany, who in early life was brought to this country by her aunt. By this union there are five children, namely: Ida, who is at home; Emile, living in Peru township, who married Miss Amelia Gise and has two children, Josie and Paul; Flora, who makes her home in this county and married Jacob Russman, by whom she has ten children; Bertha, living in Ridgefield township, who gave her hand in marriage to John Bachman, by whom she has two children, Ciralus and Frances; and Otto, a resident of Ridgefield township, who wedded Miss Mary Dernwald and has two children, Emery and Ellis.

Mr. Schnurr is a communicant of the Catholic church and his life has been honorable and upright, so that in the evening of his days he receives the respect and veneration which should ever be accorded to one of advanced years. He has been an interested witness of the county's growth and development as it has emerged from pioneer conditions and taken on all the evidences of our modern civilization and well deserves mention in this volume as one of its most worthy and well known citizens.

ALFRED BARNARD.

Alfred Barnard, carrying on agricultural pursuits in Lyme township, Huron county, is the owner of eighty-six acres of land, to the cultivation of which he is devoting his time and energies. He was born in Shelburn, Massachusetts, August 9, 1824, a son of Anson and Lucinda (Nims) Barnard, also natives of that place. The father was born February 22, 1792, and the mother March 27, 1795, while they both passed away in April, 1859, the father's demise occurring on the 11th and the mother's on the 30th of that month. Their marriage was celebrated December 2, 1819, and in their family were eight children, namely: Anson A., who was born October 14, 1820, and died April 11, 1859; Frederick A., who was born September 8, 1822, and died in 1854; Alfred of this review; Charles, who was born August 22, 1829, and died in 1908; Helen A., who was born September 11, 1828, and passed away December 24, 1861; William, born October 12, 1830; Lucinda, who was born June 30, 1833, and died January 3, 1864; and Asa W., born October 21, 1836.

Alfred Barnard spent the early years of his life under the parental roof and acquired his education in the common schools. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he came to Huron county, this state, where he resided with his uncle, Samuel Nims, for about seven years. On March 1, 1855, he was married to Ruth A. Bemiss, who was born March 10, 1827, and is a daughter of Elijah and Sophronia Bemiss, pioneer settlers of this district. After his marriage, he removed to the farm which is now his residence and which was given to him by his wife's father. When the land came into his possession, it was entirely covered with timber and brush, but with characteristic energy and industry, he set about its improvement, erecting a house, clearing the land and cultivating the soil until, in due course of time, the fields began to yield substantial harvests in return for his time and labor. Mr. Barnard is practical in his methods, studying the best ways of plowing, planting and harvesting, while to-day his place is a well improved property, containing all the equipment and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Barnard were six children: Helen, at home, who is a graduate of the Painsville College, and has been a district school teacher for many years; William E., who married Lillian Haynes, by whom he has two children, Rachel and Alfred, and who resides with his father, assisting in the operation of the home farm; Charles, who died at the age of twenty-three years; Mary, who passed away at the age of two years; Lyman, living at Toledo, Ohio, who married Bertha Kessler and has two children, Dorothy and Kenneth; and Clara, who married Frank Seymour, a resident of this township, by whom she has four children, George B., Ruth H., Ethelyn and Alberta Y. In 1892, the wife and mother was called to her final rest, leaving husband and children to mourn her loss. She was a lady of excellent traits of character and enjoyed the high regard of a large circle of friends.

Mr. Barnard's political affiliations are in accord with the principles of the republican party and for six years, he served as trustee of his township. He is a prominent member of the Lyme Congregational church, in which he served for many years as deacon. Honorable and upright in all his dealings, the salient characteristics of his life have ever been such as command the respect, confidence and good will of his fellowmen.

JONATHAN S. WHITE.

Jonathan S. White, one of the most prominent citizens of the progressive village of Greenwich and cashier of the First National Bank there, was born in Ripley township, Huron county, Ohio, February 24, 1844, and is a son of John C. and Nancy A. (Taylor) White. The latter was born in Pennsylvania, but the father's birthplace was Orange county, New York, though he was but fourteen years of age when brought by his parents to this state. The family settled in Richland county, near Mansfield, and engaged in farming, though the father for many years taught in the district schools during the winter. John C. White moved to Huron county in 1840 and bought a large tract of land which he set

about clearing, a task that was not entirely completed when his son Jonathan became old enough to assist him. His wife, who shared with him the toils of those early days, bore him four children: Mary E., Jonathan S., Jennie and Margaret A., the last named being the only member of the family beside the subject of this sketch now surviving. She married Joseph H. Lombard and has now been a widow for some years, living in Jamestown, New York. Both Mr. and Mrs. John C. White have passed away, the former in August, 1883, the latter eleven years later in the month of April, and both are buried in Edwards Grove cemetery, Ripley township. Mr. White was always a farmer, sincerely interested in the public weal, though he was never a participant in the political life of the community. He was devoted to his family and in every way a most exemplary citizen.

Jonathan S. White was educated in the district schools, spending his youth on the farm and engaging in the general work there under his father's supervision. During the Civil war, he served as a private in Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and was chiefly engaged in post duty in and about Washington and on the Potomac river. When he was discharged at the close of the war, he taught school for a number of winter terms, and in the summer devoted his energies to farming. For about one and a half years, he clerked in a general store in New London, and then returned to farming in Ripley township. After his marriage, Mr. White, not only pursued a general line of agriculture, but also engaged in stock raising and feeding, in both of which he prospered.

In politics, he is a republican and has ever taken an active and creditable part in public matters. For one year, he served as township trustee and then was elected town clerk, in which capacity he rendered efficient and faithful service during a period of thirteen years. In 1886, he was nominated and elected auditor of Huron county and filled the position to the entire satisfaction of his constituents and with credit to himself for the space of six years. It was during this period, that Mr. White moved his family to Norwalk. When he retired from the office of auditor, carrying with him the best wishes of the community, he had served, he entered the First National Bank of Norwalk as cashier. From January, 1894, to October, 1902, he filled that position, leaving it to become cashier of the First National Bank of Greenwich, in December, 1903, where he has remained to the present. At that time, he took up his residence in Greenwich and has since identified himself with every movement that has had in view the advancement of the village and the increase of its prosperity.

On the 25th of February, 1869, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. White and Miss Marietta Barre, a daughter of John and Amy (Stout) Barre, of Ripley township. The Barres came to Ohio from Niagara county, New York, as a newly married couple, and here took up the life of farmers. Fifteen children were born to them, all but two being still alive: Cornelia E., deceased; David E.; Herman B., deceased; Eliza J.; Jonathan S.; Theodore W.; William H.; Marietta E.; Ira E.; Lyman S.; James K.; Corbis M.; Dwight M.; Josephine E.; and Jessie F. The mother of these children died in May 1882. Mr. Barre was prospered in his private affairs. When death overtook him, in 1883, he was mourned as a public spirited citizen, whose life's record was one of integrity and

of good works. To Mr. and Mrs. White there have been born three children: James E., deceased; Blanche M., at home; and John G., who married Myrtle Beveridge of Greenwich and is now cashier of the Wakeman Bank Company of Wakeman, Ohio. He is an alert, efficient and popular young business man, that gives promise of a successful career.

Mr. White is, and has been for many years, a stanch Mason, belonging to Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, and to the Chapter at Norwalk. In religious matters, he and his family give their support to the Congregational church, of which Mr. White is trustee, and in whose Sunday school he has been superintendent, and otherwise prominent in all that concerns the work of the church. Mrs. White and her daughter, Blanche M., are well known for the conspicuous part they play in the social and literary life of the village. In short, they are active coadjutors to Mr. White in maintaining his reputation as the best citizen, in point of efficient activity, toward bettering the conditions of the village. His influence is always thrown on the side of progress, for the improvement of the educational opportunities here, better streets and roads, and better government.

ALBERT L. GINSTE.

Albert L. Ginste owns a well improved and valuable farm of eighty acres in Wakeman township which annually pays tribute to his care and labor in bounteous harvests. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Huron county, his birth having occurred in Wakeman township on the 26th of July, 1879. He was a son of John and Wilhelmina (Burke) Ginste, who in early manhood and womanhood sailed from Germany to the United States with their respective parents and settled near Henrietta, Lorain county, Ohio. At the time of the Civil war John Ginste, the father of our subject, enlisted in defense of the Union, becoming a member of Company H, Forty-third Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for more than three years. After the close of the war he became an active member of Harrison Douglass Post, G. A. R., at Kipton, Lorain county, Ohio, acted as its commander for a number of years and always bore a helpful part in Grand Army matters, being deeply interested in the welfare of the "boys in blue."

At his death the following resolutions were adopted by this post:

"We pause, we falter at this portal of fate where the gates stand forever ajar. At this open grave of a comrade we tarry to review the grand record of a glorious life. The meteor has traversed the arc of trajection but the sheen of its glory illumines the sky with its splendor, and that sheen will fade only as the memory of man will fade. We are standing at the bier of John Ginste, a man who was of high moral worth and unfaltering integrity. He was the embodiment of all that was true and noble in man. In his death we recognize that a brilliant star has been erased from the earth's galaxy of noble manhood. When in the full rigor of manhood, at the call of duty he enlisted in Company H, Forty-third Regiment of Ohio Infantry at Oberlin, October 15, 1861. On account of his superior qualities and proficiency he was early promoted through the various noncommissioned grades

to that of first sergeant of his company. On October 28, 1863, he was commissioned by the governor as a second lieutenant. During 1861-62 and '63 he served in the army of the Mississippi and the army of the Tennessee, in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi. In 1864 he served in the Sixteenth Army Corps until that organization ceased to exist. The command to which he belonged was transferred to the Seventeenth Army Corps. He rendered honorable service on Sherman's bloody trail down through Georgia, where the crash of infantry firing and the thunder of artillery never ceased neither day or night from the morning of the 4th day of May to the night of the 5th day of September, 1864. He was with Sherman's retrograde march from Atlanta to Northern Alabama against the Confederate army of General Hood. He was mustered out at Savannah, Georgia, December 22, 1864, having served two months and eight days beyond a three year enlistment. During his services he traversed the entire Confederacy from the west to east. His military service is a grand record of patriotic manhood; he has to his credit a grand array of brilliant stars which adorn the nation's baldrick of glory. He was engaged with his command at Cripple Creek; Resaca; New Madrid; second battle of Corinth; Rome; Island No. 10; Oxford; Adairsville; Tiptonville; Decatur, Alabama; Dallas; Fort Pillow; Snake Creek Gap; Big Shanty; first battle of Corinth; Nickajack; Kennesaw; Iuka; Decatur, Georgia; Atlanta; Ezra Church; Jonesboro; Lovejoy Station; and Savannah.

After leaving the army John Ginste turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, successfully carrying on farming in Wakeman township, Huron county, until 1882, when he took up his abode in Lorain county and there made his home until called to his final rest. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he never failed to cast his ballot in support of its men and measures on election day. For some years he served as a trustee of Camden township, Lorain county, capably discharging the duties devolving upon him in this connection. Interested and active in matters of public moment, his aid and cooperation could always be counted upon to further any movement instituted to promote the general welfare. He kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day and was always able to support his position by intelligent argument. He was highly respected and honored throughout the community in which he made his home and his death, which occurred in Elyria, Lorain county, in the fall of 1906, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His wife had passed away in October, 1904.

They reared a family of seven children, namely: Ida, now the wife of Alfred Squires, of Eaton township, Lorain county; John, a resident of Cleveland; Catherine, who is deceased; Albert L., of this review; Mary, who has also passed away; Charles, of Wakeman; and Minnie, the wife of Meade Buckley, of Camden township. John Ginste had a full realization of the value of good mental training as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties and provided his children with all the educational advantages which his means would permit.

Albert L. Ginste obtained his education in the public schools of Lorain county and grew to manhood on his father's farm, in the work of which he assisted when his time was not occupied with his text-books. Subsequent to his marriage he took up his abode on his present farm of eighty acres in Wakeman township and has since devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits. His property is the visible evidence of his life of well directed thrift and industry, for he started

out on his own account empty handed and has steadily worked his way upward until he is now the owner of a valuable and productive farm. The buildings on the place are all of a substantial and modern character. During the winter seasons Mr. Ginste engages in the feeding of sheep and in all of his undertakings is meeting with that measure of success which always rewards earnest, persistent and untiring labor.

On the 2d of December, 1867, Mr. Ginste was united in marriage to Miss Cordelia Barnes, a daughter of Charles and Helen (Hall) Barnes. The Halls were a prominent pioneer family of Wakeman township, contributing in substantial measure to its early development and upbuilding. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ginste has been born a daughter, Helen.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Ginste has given his political allegiance to the republican party and for three years has filled the office of assessor in Wakeman township. At the present time he is acting as a member of the township board of education, doing effective service for the cause of public instruction. All matters pertaining to the advancement of the community along material, intellectual and moral lines receive his hearty support and cooperation and he is widely recognized as a most progressive and public-spirited citizen. For about twelve years he has been a member of Wakeman Tent, No. 92, K. O. T. M., of which he has served as commander and also as lieutenant commander. Both he and his wife are prominent and valued members of the Congregational church, taking a deep and helpful interest in both church and Sunday-school work. He is a member of the board of trustees and his wife was organist in the church for a number of years. The young couple hold a high place in public esteem and their own hospitable and attractive home is a favorite resort with their many friends.

CHARLES S. CLARK.

Charles S. Clark needs no introduction to the readers of this volume for he has gained a world-wide reputation as the most extensive producer and propagator of seed corn not only in this country but in foreign countries as well. He was born March 22, 1860, in a house which stood upon the site of his present residence, his parents being David S. and Esther (Boyd) Clark. The father, who followed farming throughout his active life, passed away on the 7th of February, 1885. In the family were three sons and two daughters: Ella, Walter and Rollie B., all now deceased; Charles S.; and Hattie, the wife of Professor W. Andrews of Oberlin College. The father was a man of strong character, prominent in public affairs and given to good works, and he lived and died with the full confidence and respect of all who knew him. His widow still survives at the age of seventy-seven years and enjoys remarkable health.

Charles S. Clark spent his youth on the home farm and was educated in the public schools of Wakeman. At the age of eighteen years he began raising seed corn on one acre of ground, cultivating two varieties of select corn. Something of the growth and extent of his business is indicated in the fact that on the



CHARLES S. CLARK

1st of May, 1909, he shipped ninety-four varieties of seed corn to one man in Rockford, Illinois. His success has been phenomenal in this line of business and for the past twenty years he has been the largest grower of seed corn in the world, shipping to every corn-growing country on the face of the globe. During the winter of 1908-9 three shipments were sent to Paris and beginning in the month of October, 1909, his shipments averaged one thousand bushels per day during the entire season up to the middle of May. Among other very large contracts made for next winter's delivery he has one for a carload to be sent to San Francisco, California, and a full carload to Knowlton, Quebec, Canada. His business has developed from the small beginning of one acre, which was taken up as an experimental work, the excellence of his product being his best advertisement. He has been the originator and introducer of a great many of the different varieties of field corn and sweet corn now in use, including the finest varieties which are in cultivation today. There is a large amount of seed corn and many varieties raised by the farmers of Huron, Erie and Sandusky counties, from seed furnished by Mr. Clark and under contract with him for the purchase of their crop. He applies the same business rules to other sections which are well adapted for the development of seed corn. In addition to the enormous trade which he has built up in this connection he is also extensively engaged in the production of seed oats, of which he ships large quantities. These are also produced in many varieties and go into every oat-growing district. Mr. Clark has a fine farm of his own on which he produces a great deal of seed corn and oats, especially in an experimental way in the development of new varieties. His home is a commodious and attractive residence and altogether is a model farm in the nature of its improvements and the care which is bestowed upon it.

On the 12th of June, 1888, Mr. Clark was united in marriage to Miss Sarah T. Smith, of Milford, Connecticut, a daughter of E. Stiles and Maria Theresa (Platte) Smith, who had one son and two daughters: Frank W., Sarah T. and Susan Isabelle. The last named is now Mrs. Elbert N. Clark. The son married Miss Carrie W. Beard, of New Haven, Connecticut. The Smith family, to which Mrs. Clark belongs, never became residents of Ohio but were prominent in their locality, the ancestry extending back to twelve generations since the first of the name came to America from England. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have three children: Hazel Theresa, Hattie Marie, and Charles Harold Stiles.

They are refined and highly intelligent people and their home bears every evidence of these characteristics. They expect to give to their children every advantage in educational lines, intending to send all to college. Mrs. Clark is devoted to her home and gives to it her best efforts but also finds time for diversion and development in club work. The family are members of the Congregational church and active in church and Sunday-school work. Mr. Clark has done much valuable public service aside from what he has accomplished in a business way. He was a member and president of the board of education for six years, has been vice-president of the Wakeman Banking Company for ten years and is now a member of the township board of trustees. He is independent in politics, giving his support to the men and measures that his judgment endorses. As a young man he was much interested in baseball and won considerable note as a

member of the famous Wakeman Club. He still retains a keen interest in the national game but finds his special diversion in a summer outing with his family enjoyed at their handsome summer cottage at Ruggles Beach on the shores of Lake Erie.

FRED BROWN.

Among the native sons of Sherman township, Huron county, who are engaged in agricultural pursuits and are ranked among the progressive and representative farmers of the community, is Fred Brown, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and thirty-seven acres in this township. He was born on the 10th of November, 1855, and is a son of Fred and Margaret (Pirrung) Brown, both natives of Germany. They came to America about 1841 or 1842 and settled in Columbus, Ohio, where they remained for two years, after which they came to Sherman township, Huron county. While in Germany, the father was a wagonmaker by occupation and followed that trade during his residence in Columbus, but after his arrival in Sherman township, he devoted himself to farming. He purchased one hundred acres of land but later sold a part of it, owning at the time of his death eighty-eight acres. He and his wife were both buried in Sherman township. In their family were the following children: Jacob; Elizabeth, the wife of Charles Westrick, of Norwalk; Peter, who lives in Michigan; Margaret, the wife of Sebastian Purcell, residing in Peru township; John, who lives in Michigan; Frank, also of that state; Fred, of this review; Anna, the deceased wife of Henry Schendorf; and Anthony, who resides on and operates the old homestead in Sherman township. Of this family the three eldest were born in Germany.

Reared amid the scenes and environment of rural life, Fred Brown attended the district schools of his native township in the acquirement of an education. At the age of sixteen, he put aside his textbooks and engaged in farming for his father until twenty-seven years of age, when he started out for himself, renting a farm for four years. At the expiration of that period, he removed to Indiana, where he purchased a farm of ninety-five acres in Pulaski county and continued to make that his residence for thirteen years. He then sold his farm in Indiana and returned to Sherman township in 1900, buying his present place from George Diehr. He is now engaged in general farming and through his industry, well directed labors and careful management, is meeting with a creditable measure of success.

On the 14th of February, 1882, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Otilia Geiger, a daughter of Rudolph and Ernestina (Ott) Geiger, both natives of Germany. They were farming people and both passed away in Sandusky, to which place they had removed just prior to their demise. In their family were the following children: Louisa, the deceased wife of John Smith; John; Adolph; Mrs. Fred Brown; Mary, the wife of John Weidinger; and Anna, who wedded Joseph Ringlein. Mr. and Mrs. Brown became the parents of five children, as follows: William A., born June 1, 1883; Albin P., born May 24, 1888; Frank M., born

July 25, 1890; Fred R., born August 16, 1893; and Ernestina M., born December 6, 1896.

The family are members of the Catholic church at Bismarck, Sherman township, and are held in high esteem throughout the community. Mr. Brown gives substantial support to the democratic party and is serving at present as township trustee. He has also been constable, road supervisor and school director, and is a loyal citizen, supporting every measure calculated to benefit the community in its rapid and substantial development.

ALFRED W. PEIRCE.

For half a century Alfred W. Peirce has lived in Huron county and needs no introduction to the readers of this volume for his creditable life record has made him widely and favorably known. In all business affairs, he has been thoroughly reliable as well as progressive and in his relations to public interests he has been found a man of progressive spirit whose desire for the public welfare has been manifest in active work for its behalf. He was born April 29, 1833, in Charlotte, Vermont, a son of Chauncey and Mahala (Conger) Peirce.

The father was a native of Rhode Island and removed to Vermont, but never became a resident of Ohio. The son spent his youth on his father's farm and was educated in the district schools, the schoolhouse of the neighborhood being upon land in possession of the family. After he had mastered the elementary branches of learning, he spent one term in an academy to which he walked a distance of five miles each morning, returning in the same way each evening. He would also assist with the chores about the farm and though every moment was busily occupied and he had to walk so far to school, he never entered the schoolroom too late for the opening exercises. At seventeen years of age, he began teaching school, following that profession through the winter months while the summer seasons were devoted to the work of the fields, his father thus receiving the benefit of his services until after he had attained his majority. In 1856, when twenty-three years of age, he left Vermont and made his way to Chicago. In the meantime, he had picked up a knowledge of the carpenter's trade during his leisure hours. His education, too, was largely obtained by studying when the work of the farm was over for the day, and in this manner he became a man of broad education with wide knowledge concerning literature, mathematics and the sciences. On going to Chicago, in 1856, he found employment in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway Company. At that time there was not a foot of paving in Chicago, which was a city of comparatively small proportions. Mr. Peirce remained there from March until June, when he was called to his home in Vermont by the death of his father. He then continued in the Green Mountain state until the spring of 1857, when he made his way to Lake City, Minnesota. There he again worked at the carpenter's trade until the succeeding fall, when the country became involved in a financial panic rendering it very difficult to secure employment for building operations were practically suspended.

About that time Mr. Peirce came to Townsend, Huron county, Ohio, through the influence of some acquaintances he had made during his residence in Minnesota. He and his brother-in-law, M. M. Perkins, who came with him, purchased a hotel in Townsend and in addition to conducting the hostelry Mr. Peirce also worked in the agricultural implement factory owned by the firm of Hyde & Allen, the partners being W. S. Hyde and Pruden Allen. Mr. Peirce was employed in the shops until the spring of 1858, when the company suspended because of the stringency of the times. He then turned his attention to contracting and building and became a large operator along this line, erecting many of the schoolhouses of the county and many of the best dwellings. He was thus connected with building operations in addition to conducting his small farm until 1869, when he became associated with a company of railroad bridge contractors and was in Des Moines, Iowa, for a period.

On his return to Huron county, Ohio, he located in Townsend and accepted the superintendency of a sash and door factory. Three years later, he became engaged in the black walnut business in Indiana. When he again returned to Townsend, he built a residence for himself and this was about the last of his building operations. In 1875, he engaged with the Collins Pump Company as bookkeeper and thus represented them for two years, after which he became interested in the business of manufacturing pumps and also in the operation of a sawmill, in company with John C. Shaw. In this, he continued until 1890, when the mill and factory were destroyed by a cyclone, terminating his business interests of that character. He next purchased the Union Bending Works, at Collins, and has since operated this plant in connection with his son, Frank Peirce. He has ever been a man of resolute purpose, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken unless his path was barred by some obstacle or difficulty that could not be overcome by persistent and honorable effort. In 1884, he established a mercantile enterprise in Collins which he has since conducted in connection with other business affairs. He has ever been watchful of opportunities and his utilization of the advantages which have come to him have brought him to a prominent position in the business circles of the community.

Mr. Peirce has been married three times. On the 22d of August, 1854, he wedded Miss Lutheria M. Brown, a daughter of Smyrna and Almeda (Morse) Brown. Mrs. Peirce was of the same township in Vermont in which her husband's birth occurred. There were two children of this union: Lynda and Charles. The daughter is now the wife of the Rev. William Fisher, Congregational minister of Kansas, while the son, Charles, is a successful farmer in Hartman township. The wife and mother died November 24, 1864, and on the 9th of December, 1869, Mr. Peirce wedded Miss Julia A. Dean, a daughter of Royal C. and Mary (Smith) Dean. The father was a traveling salesman for a Zanesville (Ohio) firm for many years and also the owner of a farm in Townsend township. By the second marriage there were born three children: Royal C., who was killed at Akron, Ohio, while in the line of duty with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; Carl W., who after graduating from Oberlin College in 1900, went to Pittsburg and is now identified with the steel interests of that city; and Frank H., who was formerly an Oberlin student and is now associated in business with his father. The death of Mrs. Julia Peirce occurred March 9, 1894, and on the 24th of Octo-

ber, 1895, Mr. Peirce was joined in wedlock to Miss Lena E. Fitch, a daughter of Edgar and Letta (Ward) Fitch, of Townsend township, who came to this state from Michigan in 1891. Mr. Fitch is a farmer by occupation and has returned to Michigan. By the third marriage there is but one child, a daughter, Pauline.

Politically, Mr. Peirce is a republican having been identified with the party for years as one of its well informed representatives and active workers thoroughly qualified to defend his position by intelligent argument. He has served as justice of the peace for one term, was township trustee for several terms, and township clerk for several years. He was a member of the school board for many years and has always been a friend of education, advocating advanced ideas in connection with the work of public instruction. To his children, he gave superior college advantages and all made excellent records in their studies, especially in mathematical lines. Mr. Peirce is a member of the Masonic fraternity and for years was active in the affairs of the order. He has always been an advocate of temperance and of things which work for honorable manhood and progressive citizenship. His wife and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are active in church and Sunday school work, while Mr. Peirce gives liberally to the support thereof. He is in every way a splendid type of citizen and his cooperation can be counted upon to further any movement for the general good.

FRANK W. ADELMAN.

Frank W. Adelman, owning and operating a fine farm of one hundred acres of land, situated in Norwalk township, Huron county, Ohio, was born upon this farm on the 27th of February, 1861, a son of John J. and Margaret (Klunding) Adelman, both natives of Germany. In 1830, the father accompanied his parents, J. P. and Tracy Adelman, to the United States, and they located in Buffalo, New York, remaining in that city for a short time, after which a removal was made to Ohio, the family home being established in Ridgefield township, Huron county. There the grandfather of our subject purchased one hundred acres of land and in that township, John P. Adelman spent almost his entire life. He bought the farm upon which our subject now resides and placed many improvements thereon, devoting his energies entirely to agricultural pursuits. He became well known in the community in which he resides and served for some time as road supervisor. He passed away in 1870 in the faith of the Catholic church. He had married Margaret Klunding, who was born in Germany in 1831 and left the fatherland when thirteen years of age, accompanying her parents to the United States, where they settled in Sherman township, Huron county, Ohio. Her death occurred on the 17th of November, 1898. In the family of this worthy couple, were seven children, namely: Francis, deceased; Charles, who has also passed away; Rose, the wife of Anthony Harr, residing in Norwalk, Ohio; Frank W., of this review; Clara M., also residing in Norwalk; Joseph, deceased; and Benjamin, of Norwalk.

Reared amid the scenes and environments of rural life, Frank W. Adelman acquired his education in the district and German schools, while the periods of vacation were devoted to the work of the farm. Upon attaining his majority, he decided to make the occupation to which he had been reared his life work and he has since directed his energies and time to general agricultural pursuits. He has always resided upon the farm where he was born and has continued in the work of improvement and development until he has brought his fields under a fine state of cultivation, the excellent condition of the entire place today attesting the care and labor expended upon it. He possesses good business ability and his energy and close application to work have been the means of bringing to him the prosperity which he now enjoys.

On the 9th of October, 1888, Mr. Adelman was united in marriage to Miss Mary Shaeffer, a daughter of George and Angeline (Dehe) Shaeffer. She was born in Peru township, this county, February 26, 1867, and on the 10th of October, 1907, was called to her final rest, leaving besides her husband, six children to mourn her loss, namely: George, Loretta, Emma, Elmie, Herbert and Clarence, all residing at home.

Mr. Adelman holds membership with the Modern Woodman of Norwalk and is also a member of the Catholic church. His long residence in this locality has brought him a wide acquaintance, and he is held in high esteem by his many friends. The fact that he is best liked where best known is an indication of his personal worth. Successful in his agricultural pursuits, he is ranked among the representative members of the German-American element of this county.

BLASIUS SIMON.

Blasius Simon who has made his home continuously in Peru township since 1834, covering a period of three-fourths of a century, is the owner of a well improved and productive farm of fifty-eight acres in that township, on which he resides. His birth occurred in Baden, Germany, on the 15th of March, 1833, his parents being Conrad and Mary Ann (Krieveler) Simon. The year 1834 witnessed their emigration to the new world, the family home being established in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, where the father purchased a small tract of land and built a log cabin. After clearing the land he gave his attention to its cultivation and improvement and there carried on his agricultural interests throughout the remainder of his life, winning a goodly measure of prosperity in his undertakings. His wife also passed away on this farm, and thus the community lost two of its most respected and worthy pioneer settlers. Their children were as follows: Seraphine, George and Mary, all of whom are deceased; Blasius, of their review; Christian; Anthony; Andrew, who has also passed away; and several who died in infancy.

Blasius Simon was but a year old when brought by his parents to the United States and, as before stated, has since continued to reside in Peru township. In early manhood he learned the carpenter's trade and for a number of years was actively and successfully identified with the building interests of the county,



MR. AND MRS. BLASIUS SIMON

erecting a large number of houses and barns. In 1862 he purchased his present farm of fifty-eight acres from George Sowers and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, in which field of activity he has likewise met with success. As the years have gone by he has brought the property under a high state of cultivation and has made many substantial improvements thereon, remodeling the residence, etc. In recent years, however, he has largely put aside the active work of the fields and his farm is now being operated by his son Edward.

On the 4th of June, 1861, Mr. Simon was united in marriage to Miss Kathryn Hills, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann (Biddle) Hills, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Simon was a little maiden of seven years when she came with her parents to Norwalk township, this county. She was one of ten children, the record of whom is as follows: Helen, Frances, Mary and Jennie, all of whom have passed away; Kathryn; Tracy, who is likewise deceased; Fred; Joseph; and two who died in infancy. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Simon have been born six children. Amelia, living in Ridgfield township, is the wife of Lawrence Smith and has three children: Edward, Anna and Otto. Albert, a resident of Norwalk, wedded Miss Rose Meyer, by whom he has four children: Walter, Henry, Mildred and Fred. Rose is still under the parental roof. George, who makes his home at Monroeville, married Miss Rosella Frey and had five children: Alfred; Reuben; Helen; Hilda, who is deceased; and Norman. Edward, who wedded Miss Emma Frey, lives at home and manages his father's farm. Andrew was called to his final rest at the age of eighteen years.

The different members of the family are all faithful communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. Simon has now passed the seventy-sixth milestone on life's journey and that his career has been at all times above reproach and worthy of commendation is indicated by the high esteem and regard in which he is held by those among whom practically his entire life has been spent. His memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present and he has been an interested witness of the wonderful transformation that has been wrought as pioneer conditions have gradually given way before the onward march of civilization.

WILLIAM HENRY SNYDER.

William Henry Snyder, now living retired in North Fairfield, is numbered among the honored veterans of the Civil war and is also classed with those men who in positions of public service have demonstrated their loyalty to the general good by the prompt, efficient and faithful performance of duty. His record is altogether a most creditable one and because of his wide acquaintance in Huron county, cannot fail to prove of interest to many of the readers of this volume.

Mr. Snyder was born in Greene county, New York, on the 11th of January, 1835, his parents being John and Harriet (Watrous) Snyder. His paternal grandparents were Peter A. and Hannah (Wells) Snyder, whose family numbered seven children, namely: John, Henry, Maria, Abram, Peter, James and Jane. Of this number, John Snyder, the father of our subject, was reared, educated and

married in the east and unto him and his wife were born five sons and three daughters as follows: William Henry, Hiram, Henry, Maria, Lucy, Vincent, Sylvester and Caroline.

William Henry Snyder spent his youthful days under the parental roof. It was in 1854, that the family came to Ohio, settling at Snyder's Corners at which time William H. Snyder was a young man of nineteen years. He was prepared for life's practical and responsible duties by the educational privileges offered by the public schools and by the thorough business training which he received, under the direction of his father. In early manhood, he took up general farming as a life work and carefully tilled the soil for many years, but at length withdrew from that field of labor and later was busily engaged with official service and also with the duties of the secretaryship of the Huron County Insurance Company, which position he filled for a number of years. He is still the owner of sixty acres of land in Ashland county and that farm returns to him a gratifying annual income.

It was on the 5th of December, 1856, that Mr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Hinkley, a daughter of Benjamin and Maria (Paine) Hinkley, in whose family were the following named: Hannah, Joshua, Mary, Phoebe and William. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have become the parents of four children: Ida, Lucia, Harry and Benjamin.

Mr. Snyder is entitled to wear the Grand Army button from the fact that he served as a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting in August, 1862, as a member of Company D, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He remained with that command until honorably discharged in 1863, when he returned to the north. He has always been as loyal to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields. His political allegiance is given to the democracy and he has served as justice of the peace for a number of terms and as postmaster at North Fairfield for four years. His official service has been characterized by the prompt and capable discharge of his duties, his fidelity to any trust being recognized as one of his strong traits. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife are connected with the Eastern Star, exemplifying in their lives the beneficent spirit of the craft, which is based upon mutual helpfulness and the recognition of the brotherhood of mankind.

CHARLES A. EASTER.

One of the old farms of Greenfield township, Huron county, Ohio, is that on which Charles A. Easter lives. He was born on this place as was his father before him, and the house which is his home was built by his grandfather in 1834. The latter, Archibald Easter, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1777, and was the son of John Easter, a well-to-do farmer and cloth manufacturer of Beragh, near Londonderry, Ireland. Archibald Easter received a good education and as a young man, was sent to the United States to look after some real estate interests of his father. He could not return immediately upon the accomplishment of his business on account of the War of 1812, and so sought employment

in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, as a weaver, a trade he had learned in Ireland. After three years, he was made foreman, but in 1815, he returned to Ireland. In 1817, however, he came a second time to the United States, landing at New York. He came west by canal and lake to Sandusky, Ohio, and then to the center of the state, locating on a farm near Columbus, which has since been incorporated within the limits of that city. He lived on that place for a few years and then moved to Lower Sandusky, now Fremont, where he bought a farm, having previously traversed on horseback nine states of the Union in search of a homestead. He was compelled to leave Fremont on account of the ague, and in 1819, came to this county, settling first on a farm in the center of Greenfield township, where Robert Arthur now lives, and in 1830, located on the farm now occupied by his grandson. On this land, he farmed until 1860, when he retired from active life. In 1824, he married Miss Rebecca Easter, who was born in 1801 in County Tryone, Ireland, and was the daughter of James Easter. They were united by Elder John Wheeler and became the parents of six children: two who died in infancy; Elias; Sarah, the wife of James McLane; Keziah, who married Samuel Arthur; and John, who was drowned in his youth. Archibald Easter died May 1, 1867, and his wife passed away June 6, 1883, both being buried in the Steuben cemetery. He had helped to organize the whigs of his township and later became a republican. He was a successful farmer and with his wife was a member of the Congregational church.

Elias Easter, his son and the father of Charles A. Easter, was born September 19, 1834, was reared on the farm and attended the public schools of Greenfield township. Shortly before his father's death, he assumed charge of the home place, on which he continued the successful farming. On the 7th of June, 1871, he was married to Miss Jennie E. McMorris, a daughter of John and Nancy McMorris, of Greenfield township, who had come originally from Ireland. Mrs. Easter died November 5, 1876, after having borne two children: Nancy, who died in infancy; and Charles A., the subject of this review. On June 14, 1888, Mr. Easter married a second time, his bride being Mrs. Marjory Aiken, the widow of James A. Aiken. She was born March 30, 1846, in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, and was the daughter of Richard Chilcott. Mr. Easter remained on the farm now belonging to our subject until 1892, when he removed to Norwalk, where he died May 5, 1907. He was a stanch republican and held the offices of justice of the peace, trustee, and others in his township. He was a member of the Greenfield Congregational church, in which he held office of some kind nearly all his life.

Charles A. Easter lived on the farm on which he was born until 1892. He received his early training for life in the district schools of the county and upon leaving them spent three terms at Oberlin College, and then attended the business colleges at Sandusky and Norwalk. In the latter town, he worked for five years as clerk and stenographer and then obtained employment in Canton, Massillon and Cleveland. In the fall of 1907, he returned to Huron county to assume the charge of the farm in Greenfield township. It embraces one hundred and eighty-three acres of fine land, which Mr. Easter has brought to a high degree of productiveness. He follows a general line of agriculture and has been more successful than the average.

On the 22d of September, 1901, Mr. Easter was married to Miss Florence E. Bowers, a daughter of Henry F. and Marana (Evans) Bowers, of Norwalk. Both parents were born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, and there were married, but have lived in Norwalk for thirty years. The father, a stone mason by trade, was a soldier of the Civil war and is a member of the local post of the G. A. R. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist church. In his family were nine children: Nellie, who married James A. Whitney, deceased; Fred W., of St. Louis, Missouri; Bertha E., the wife of George Snyder, of Toledo, Ohio; Raymond E., of that city; Charles E., of Norwalk; Grace L., the wife of C. H. Baker, of Toledo; Josephine, deceased, who married Ralph Husted; Florence E., now Mrs. Easter; and Eva I., the wife of Harry Thorley, of Norwalk, Ohio. Florence E. was born in Norwalk, and has borne her husband two children: Charles E., born March 5, 1904; and Elizabeth J., born May 8, 1907.

Though so recently a farmer on his own responsibility, Mr. Easter has made the two years tell in his bountiful harvests. The old farm, producing under one family for three generations, has attained a cultivation it never reached before and is a fine tract of land. Mr. Easter is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Norwalk, No. 64, and of the Congregational church, and is a citizen respected in the community, among his fraternal brothers and in his church.

SAMUEL W. ROWLAND.

Samuel W. Rowland, a well known and respected resident of the village of Wakeman, was born in Clarksfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 12th of June, 1839, his parents being Ezra and Ann (Stiles) Rowland. He traces his ancestry back to Thomas and Daniel Rowland, who came to this country from Scotland in the latter part of the seventeenth century, settling in Connecticut. Several of their descendants participated in the Revolutionary war. Ezra Rowland, the father of our subject, was a son of Aaron and Deborah (Dean) Rowland, who came from Putnam county, New York, to Huron county, this state, in 1818. They left the Empire state on the 10th of October of that year, making the journey in a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen and one horse, and on the 18th of November, arrived in Clarksfield township, this county. This district was a dense forest, but they found shelter in the log cabin of Captain Husted, an earlier settler, in whose gristmill Mr. Rowland was employed for a time. The inmates of the little structure numbered twenty persons and as soon as possible, Mr. Rowland erected a cabin home of his own in the vicinity, assisting in the conduct of the gristmill and in the work of the farm. In 1822, he left the mill and took up his abode on a farm which he had previously purchased. In the family of Ezra and Ann (Stiles) Rowland were seven children, namely: Rebecca and Benjamin, who are deceased; Aaron G., an agriculturist of Clarksfield township; Lucy and Jairus, who have also passed away; Samuel W., of this review; and Joseph, who is likewise deceased.

Samuel W. Rowland was reared on his father's farm and continued under the parental roof until he had attained the age of twenty-one years. He obtained his

preliminary education in the district schools of his native township and when twenty years of age, began teaching school. At the end of a year, however, he entered Oberlin College and after leaving that institution once more became connected with educational interests as an instructor in the schools of Montgomery county, where he remained until the time of his enlistment for service in the Union army. It was in August, 1862, that he became a member of Company A, Ninety-third Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisting for a term of three years or during the war. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and was with General Rosecrans at the battle of Stone River, where Mr. Rowland was wounded on the 29th of December, 1862, a shot passing through his right ankle and splintering the bone. The wound was so serious that he was compelled to remain in the hospital for sometime and was afterward sent home on a furlough, a year passing before he again joined his regiment. After returning to the army, he took part with General Sherman in all the hotly contested engagements of that campaign and on the 17th of December, 1864, was again wounded, at Nashville, in the battle between Generals Thomas and Hood, being shot in the upper right arm by a minie ball when within sixteen feet of the Confederate breastworks. This also shattered the bones of the arm and after leaving the hospital, he was sent to a Louisville institution to convalesce, but while there was honorably discharged from the army, the war having come to an end. He had proven a most brave and loyal soldier, never faltering in the performance of any task assigned him and returned home with a splendid military record. On again taking up the pursuits of civil life, Mr. Rowland was engaged in farming in Clarksfield township and during the winter months taught in the district schools. He also taught vocal music classes for a number of years during the winter season, being a musician of considerable skill and ability. In 1867, he removed to North Lawrence, Kansas, where he remained for a year and then spent three years in Medina, Ohio, being engaged in teaching during two years of that period. Subsequently, he went to Peabody, Kansas, where he taught for five years in the graded schools, which he had organized. His success as an educator was marked, for he had the ability to impart clearly and concisely to others the knowledge that he had acquired and was moreover an excellent disciplinarian. Returning to Huron county in 1875, he established the family home in Wakeman and has here since continued to reside. He purchased a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres, one hundred acres of which was timber land, which he immediately began clearing, cutting seven hundred thousand feet of lumber in two years. The proceeds from the sale of the lumber were sufficient to pay for the entire property. Industrious and energetic, he resolutely set to work to develop a good farm and as the years went by gradually transformed the place into one of the finest and most productive farms in the county. In November, 1895, he took up his abode in the village of Wakeman, where he has since lived retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

On the 4th of July, 1863, Mr. Rowland was united in marriage to Miss Betsy E. Waugh, a daughter of Lansing and Docia (Minor) Waugh. The father was a Baptist minister of Wakeman township, where the family resided for a great many years, both Mr. and Mrs. Waugh passing away and being buried there. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rowland have been born seven children, as follows: Justin

E., a practicing physician of South Euclid, Ohio; Bertha D., who is the wife of Charles Russell of Wakeman township; Dennis D., a resident of Cleveland, Ohio; Guy O., who is practicing medicine at East Palestine, Ohio; Park O., likewise living in Cleveland; Lansing E., of Denver, Colorado; and Lewis U., who is a musician of note and makes his home at Grand Forks, North Dakota. All of the children are prosperous and prominent residents of their respective communities.

Mr. Rowland has always given his support to the men and measures of the republican party with the exception of one year, when he voted for St. John, the presidential candidate of the prohibition party. He is a strong advocate of the cause of temperance and an ardent worker in its behalf, believing that the intemperate use of intoxicating liquors is the greatest curse with which our country has to contend. In the spring of 1896, he was elected justice of the peace and with the exception of one term has since served continuously in that office, being the incumbent at the present time. His decisions are strictly fair and impartial and he is widely recognized as a most able and just judge. He has been a member of the school board for two terms and all public improvements, such as the establishment of good schools, roads, etc., receive his hearty support and co-operation. He and his family are earnest and faithful members of the Congregational church, in which he has acted as a deacon for many years. For many years, he was also chorister in the church and, although he has now reached the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, still sings in the choir and acts as assistant chorister. He is interested and active in church and Sunday school work and in fact in all religious societies organized to promote moral advancement. He still maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Wilson Todd Post, No. 559, G. A. R., and has served as an officer of the post ever since becoming identified therewith, acting as chaplain at the present time. He has been a delegate to both state and national encampments and is a most enthusiastic and valued member of the organization. In spite of his hazardous and severe experiences as a soldier, Mr. Rowland is still in excellent health, which he attributes in large measure to the fact that he has never used tobacco or stimulants in any form and it is only in recent years that he has indulged even in tea. Although now past the seventieth milestone on life's journey, in spirit and interests, he seems yet in his prime, for he has always associated to a great extent with young people and thus has ever maintained the enthusiasm of his earlier years in all the varied activities and pleasures of life.

WILLIAM T. ASHTON.

William T. Ashton, who is now living retired on his fine farm of one hundred and ninety-two acres in Peru township, was born in this township on the 10th of January, 1850. His parents, William and Sallie (Burch) Ashton, were natives of Lincolnshire, England, and New York state respectively, the father's birth having occurred on the 9th of March, 1819. The paternal grandparents of our subject were among the first settlers of Peru township, having made the journey to this part of the state by wagon in 1831. The grandfather erected a



MR. AND MRS. W. T. ASHTON

log house and resolutely set himself to the task of clearing a tract of one hundred and thirty acres of land which he had purchased, but died within a year of his arrival in this county. His family numbered seven children, all of whom are now deceased, namely: James, Thomas, William, John, Edward, Mary, and one who passed away in infancy.

William Ashton, the father of William T. Ashton, was a lad of twelve years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Peru township, Huron county, and there he continued to make his home until called to his final rest on the 17th of March, 1890. In 1866 he purchased the farm which is now in possession of his son, William T., erected a commodious residence and barns and also placed many other substantial improvements on the property. As the years passed by he won a goodly measure of prosperity in the conduct of his agricultural interests and became widely recognized as a substantial and representative citizen of the community. His wife, who had accompanied her parents on their removal from the Empire state to Huron county, passed away in 1872 when forty-eight years of age. Unto this worthy couple were born five children, as follows: Mary, who is now deceased; Anna, who is the wife of C. A. Howe and resides at Monroeville, Ohio; William T., of this review; and Lewis J. and Eva, who are likewise deceased.

At the usual age William T. Ashton began his education by becoming a student in the district schools of this county. His training at farm labor was not meager, for at an early age he began work in the fields and soon became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He was successfully and energetically identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career but has recently retired from the active work of the fields and now rents his farm. It is a well improved and valuable tract of land comprising one hundred and ninety-two acres and he still makes his home on the farm, having here a commodious and modern residence. His well directed and untiring industry in former years brought him the competence that now enables him to live practically retired, and throughout the community in which his entire life has been spent he is well known and highly esteemed as a most worthy and prosperous citizen.

On the 3d of February, 1872, Mr. Ashton was united in marriage to Miss Emma P. Knoll, whose birth occurred in Ridgefield township, Huron county, in 1856, her parents being Christian and Elizabeth Knoll, of Ridgefield township. The three children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Ashton are as follows: Clara, a graduate of the Zenaum Art School at Columbus, is now the wife of P. W. Clark, who conducts a business college at Louisville, Kentucky. Their union has been blessed with one son, William A. Alice, a graduate of the Monroeville high school, gave her hand in marriage to Professor Oscar Erf, who is professor of the dairy department at the Ohio State University. They reside at Columbus and have one son, Lowell. Myrtle, likewise a graduate of the Monroeville high school, lives at home with her father. The wife and mother was called to her final rest on the 7th of September, 1907, her loss being deeply mourned by an extensive circle of friends as well as her immediate family.

In his political views Mr. Ashton was formerly a democrat and on that ticket was elected to the office of township trustee, in which he served for a number of

years. At the present time, however, he gives his allegiance to the men and measures of the republican party, believing its principles to be most conducive to good government. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church at Monroeville. A man of sterling character, he has always merited and received the confidence and respect of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

ISAAC McKESSON.

The life history of Isaac McKesson constitutes an important chapter in the annals of Huron county. He figured prominently in industrial and political circles for many years, but is now living retired from active business save for the interest which he feels in the world's progress. He represents a family whose name has long been interwoven with the early history of Ohio, the family arriving in this state in 1827, settlement being made in Venice in what is now Erie county. On the paternal side, Mr. McKesson comes of Scotch lineage, his grandfather, John McKesson, a Presbyterian minister, having come from Scotland to America in 1761 and locating in York county, Pennsylvania. He was a typical Scotch Presbyterian, who proved a power for good in the community in which he resided during the early days of the "new world" as America was then commonly designated. He wielded a wide influence by reason of his strict integrity and honorable manhood, while his life at all times measured up to a high moral standard.

His son, Isaac McKesson, Sr., the father of our subject, was also educated for the ministry but his natural taste for mechanics led him to abandon that calling before he had completed his theological course and he later learned the trade of a millwright and civil engineer. Attracted by the favorable location for mills in Venice, Erie county, Ohio, he removed to that place in 1827, where for a number of years he followed his trade of millwright and also did considerable surveying and civil engineering. Later he resided in Bellevue for some years and subsequently purchased a farm near Venice, where he engaged in farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1854. He had been a prominent figure in the development of the locality in which he resided, aiding very materially in the improvement of milling property, and was recognized as one of the leading and valued citizens of his part of the county. Ere coming to Ohio, he had married Miss Elizabeth Caldwell, and in their family were the following children: Jane; James; John; Oliver; William, who passed away in infancy; William; Elizabeth and Isaac, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of the last named.

Isaac McKesson, whose name introduces this review, was born in Pennsylvania on the 12th of January, 1821, and was therefore a little lad of six years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio. Spending the period of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, he is indebted to the district school system for the educational advantages which he enjoyed. Early in life, after giving careful thought concerning the work for which he was best adapted and which in his estimation would prove the most profitable, he decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, and under his direction and guidance learned the

trade of a millwright and carpenter. This he followed for a few years, at the same time giving considerable time to the management of his father's farming property. He was married on the 28th of October, 1841, to Miss Zorada J. Hunt, a daughter of John and Nancy (Lord) Hunt, natives of New Hampshire, who came to Ohio about 1816, locating in Norwalk, where Mr. Hunt engaged in the cooperage business.

After his marriage, Mr. McKesson located at Enterprise, Erie county, Ohio, where he operated a sawmill for about a year, and then for two years he was engaged in carpentering and was also identified with agricultural pursuits. Later, he rented a farm near Sandusky, which he cultivated for about two years, and at the same time worked at his trade as carpenter, erecting many houses throughout the community, most of which were constructed of hewn logs. Subsequently, he purchased a farm in York township, Sandusky county, and there he engaged in general farming for six years, when he bought a farm in Groton township, Erie county, upon which he resided until 1866, when he purchased property in Collins, Huron county, to which he removed in 1869 and which he has since continued to make his place of residence. After his arrival in Huron county, he became the proprietor of a sawmill and bending works, his plant being the first steam bending works to be established in that section of the county. He also engaged in the manufacture of force pumps, which were a new feature at that time, and the fact that Mr. McKesson added to his pump the double action caused his product to be a vast improvement upon that which had hitherto been placed upon the market. The Growth of the business, therefore, was very rapid and soon reached extensive proportions, the enterprise becoming one of the leading and important industries of Huron county. In 1880, however, he sold his interests and practically retired from active life. A man of keen business acumen, during his connection with industrial interests, he so capably controlled his various enterprises that he became recognized as one of the prominent business men of Townsend township. He also possessed considerable real estate, for as the years went by and he prospered, he invested in land, becoming the owner of property interests in Collins and also in Townsend township. For some years, he also operated a sawmill and turning plant upon land which he owned in Michigan, not far from Jackson, but since retirement from business, he has unfortunately lost most of this property.

Not merely because of the success which he won in the business world is Mr. McKesson entitled to special mention in this volume, but also by reason of his deep and helpful interest in the public affairs of the community and the prominent position which he held in local political circles. He is a stalwart republican, and has been very active in the affairs of the party for many years, having been called to various positions of trust by his fellow citizens. He served as trustee of Groton township for eight years, was justice of the peace for three years, township treasurer for two years, served for two terms as county commissioner of Erie county and was offered the nomination for a third term by the unanimous vote of the convention, but declined the honor. He was also elected trustee of Townsend township, serving for two terms, and in both Erie and Huron counties, he was a member of the school board for many years. He has been a prominent figure in county, district and state conventions, having been a delegate to the

first republican county convention held in Erie county. He called the first republican caucus in Groton township, Erie county, and was a delegate to the convention that first nominated John Sherman for congress, held in Shelby, Ohio. He assisted in organizing the first county fair association in Erie county and was a member of the board of directors, while after his arrival in Huron county, he became a director of the Huron County Agricultural Society, which position he filled for some time. He was likewise active in the movement which resulted in the establishment of a children's home in Huron county and for twenty-two years served as a trustee of the home, eventually resigning his position on account of ill health. Mr. McKesson was also very active in the affairs of Erie county and those of Ohio, during the period of the Civil war. He was commissioned by Governor Tod, lieutenant colonel of the Second Regiment, Ohio National Guard, and was active in securing Erie county's quota of troops. He also made it his duty to see that the families of the soldiers were properly cared for and gave not only freely of his time, but also liberally of his means to provide whatever was necessary for their welfare, thereby manifesting to some extent the spirit of philanthropy that underlies his nature.

As the years passed the home of Mr. and Mrs. McKesson was blessed with two children: Lester and Nancy E. The daughter is now Mrs. George Liles, of Collins. The son, when only eighteen years of age, at the first call for troops enlisted on the 8th of April, 1861 as a member of the Eighth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served for a term of three months. After his discharge, he immediately re-enlisted for three years, and throughout that period, he served with distinction, participating in more than seventy battles and skirmishes. He was thrice wounded, at Fredericksburg, later at Gettysburg and again at the battle of the Wilderness. The last wound was at first thought to be mortal but he recovered. He was promoted from a private to the rank of lieutenant and the records show that he was a brave and courageous officer, remaining at all times loyal to the old flag and the cause which it represented. After the close of the war, he returned home and entered business life, being now engaged in the real estate business in Toledo, Ohio. He is a man of high character, who stands well in his community and is a worthy son of an honored father.

Mr. McKesson was called upon, in the fall of 1878, to mourn the loss of his wife, and in March, 1880, he was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Harriet (Reese) Emmerson, the widow of Henry Emmerson. She, too, passed away on the 1st of July, 1886, and for his third wife, Mr. McKesson chose Mrs. Rebecca (Balliet) Van Buskirk, whom he married on the 1st of November, 1887. She is the widow of Samuel Van Buskirk and a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Montz) Balliet, of Richland county, who originally came from Pennsylvania and were prominent farming people.

Mr. McKesson and his family have held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church for many years, he having been a member of that denomination for more than seventy years. During his connection therewith, he has been very active in church work and has held every office in the church below the clergy. He has been especially active and helpful in the direction of Sunday school work, having organized and assisted in maintaining various Sabbath schools where none had previously existed. Mr. McKesson is a great humanitarian at heart and has

ever been a stalwart supporter of those measures which serve to promote general progress along material, political, intellectual and moral lines, and also to uplift and maintain a high standard of citizenship. He is a splendid type of the high-minded American gentleman and an excellent example of the power and force of honorable manhood, of earnest effort and of high principles. He has now reached the eighty-eighth mile stone on life's journey and he can look back upon the past without regret and upon the future without fear.

AUGUST SCHEID.

August Scheid, who has long been numbered among the most enterprising, energetic and successful agriculturists of Peru township, is the owner of a rich and arable tract of land of one hundred and forty-four acres. He is a native son of Huron county, his birth having occurred in Peru township on the 26th of October, 1858. His parents, John William and Catherine (Beilstein) Scheid, were both natives of Germany, the former born on the 9th of January, 1818, and the latter in 1826. In 1849 the father accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world, the family home being established in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, where both the grandfather and grandmother of our subject passed away. John William Scheid, the father of August Scheid, continued to make his home in Peru township until called to his final rest on the 30th of November, 1903, being successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He assisted in the organization and erection of the Lutheran church in Peru township and served as one of its elders for a number of years. His wife, who had made the journey to the new world in company with her sisters and brothers, was called to her final rest in 1885. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, namely: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Charles J. Heyman and resides in Lyme township; August, of this review; Henrietta, who makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Hass, in Sherman township; William C., living in Peru township; Catherine B., residing in Sherman township, who is the wife of George C. Hass; and L. H., of California.

In the district and German schools of his home neighborhood August Scheid obtained his education and when not busy with his text-books assisted in the work of the home farm, thus early becoming familiar with the line of activity which he later chose as a life occupation. He is now devoting his time and energies to the cultivation and improvement of a farm of one hundred and forty-four acres in Peru township, ninety-five acres of which he received from his father, while the remaining forty-nine acres were purchased by him from the Lewis Hoffman estate. As the years have gone by he has placed many substantial improvements on the property and annually reaps bountiful harvests which find a ready sale on the market. He likewise has charge of the Heyman Milling Company's interests at Pontiac, buying grain, etc.

On the 21st of February, 1882, Mr. Scheid was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Heyman, a native of Sherman township and a daughter of George W. and Elizabeth (Longscheid) Heyman, of Sherman township. Unto Mr. and Mrs.

Scheid have been born ten children, as follows: George W., who is a teacher in the Ohio Normal University at Ada; Estella, who is the wife of Fred Linder, of Townsend township; and Walter, Dora, Arthur, Herbert, Edwin, Ralph, Alfred and Harvey, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Politically Mr. Scheid is a democrat and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust. He has served as township trustee for seven years, was justice of the peace for three years and in 1890 acted as real-estate appraiser of Peru township. He has likewise been a member of the school board, the cause of public education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. The Lutheran church of Pontiac numbers him among its most active and helpful members and he has served in various official capacities therein. In the community where they have spent their entire lives both he and his wife are most widely and favorably known, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

LOUIS ERF.

Louis Erf, who is extensively and successfully engaged in farming and dairying, is the owner of the Hickory Dairy Farm, comprising a tract of two hundred and thirty acres of rich and productive land in Peru township. It was on this place that his birth occurred, his natal day being July 28, 1866. His parents, Philip and Dorothy (Heyman) Erf, were both natives of Germany, the former born in 1832. When a young man of twenty-one years Philip Erf came alone to the new world and, securing employment as a farm hand, was busily engaged in the work of the fields for several years. Believing that the United States afforded broader opportunities than could be obtained in his native land, he then sent for his parents, Jacob and Kathryn Erf, and his two brothers, Anthony and Jacob, all of whom took up their abode in Huron county, Ohio. When he had accumulated sufficient capital, Philip Erf, the father of our subject, bought a small tract of land in Peru township and as his financial resources increased added to his holdings by additional purchase until at the time of his death he owned more than five hundred acres. The prosperity which he enjoyed was the direct result of his untiring and well directed labor and he was recognized throughout the community as a most successful, enterprising and representative citizen. He served as school director and township trustee in Peru township and also held other positions of public trust, ever discharging his official duties in a prompt and capable manner. His demise, which occurred in January, 1894, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for his upright and honorable life had gained him the kindly regard and friendship of all with whom he was associated. His wife was but a little maiden of twelve years when she crossed the Atlantic to the United States in company with her parents, William and Johanetta Heyman. She still survives at the age of sixty-nine years and now makes her home with her son, Louis. Her other children are as follows: William, who is a resident of Lyme township; Lydia, the deceased wife of A. P.



LOUIS ERF

Horn, of Lyme township; and Oscar, who is professor of the dairy department in the Ohio State University at Columbus.

Louis Erf obtained his education in the schools of Monroeville, Ohio, and after his father died took charge of the old homestead farm, which has since been in his possession and which has remained his place of residence from his birth to the present time. It is one of the finest farming properties in the entire county and the commodious and substantial residence thereon was erected by his father in 1867, but he has since made many improvements in the way of modern conveniences. His place is known as the Hickory Dairy Farm and in the conduct of both his agricultural and dairying interests he has met with a highly gratifying and commendable measure of success, being a man of sound business judgment and unfaltering energy. He was one of the promoters of the Star Creamery Company at Monroeville and is now a member of its board of directors as well as one of its stockholders. He is likewise the president of the Farmers & Citizens Bank of Monroeville, one of the promoters and stockholders of the Hess Hardware Company of that place and a director and stockholder in the Perfect Silo & Cement Company of Sunbury, Ohio. Possessing excellent executive ability and keen discrimination, his cooperation has been sought in the management and control of various other concerns and he has gained wide and favorable recognition as a leading and respected resident of his native county.

On the 10th of February, 1897, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Erf and Elizabeth Henninger, a daughter of Jacob and Kathryn (Spatz) Henninger, of Monroeville. By this union there are three children: Philip, Clifford and Dorothy.

In his political views Mr. Erf is a stalwart democrat and has served as school director in Ridgefield township, while at the present time he is treasurer of Peru township. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic lodge at Monroeville, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Evangelical church. His life is exemplary in all respects and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity by his own high moral worth. What he undertakes he accomplishes, for he possesses resolution, perseverance and reliability, and these qualities have caused him to be enrolled among the best citizens of this part of the state.

EDWARD MUSHETT.

Edward Mushett, engaged in agricultural pursuits in Ridgefield township, Huron county, Ohio, was born upon the farm on which he now resides April 18, 1871, a son of Alexander and Jane (Harpster) Mushett. The former, who was born in New York in 1825, came to Ohio when a young man in company with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Mushett. The family home was established in Ridgefield township, where Alexander Mushett spent the rest of his life, devoting his time and attention to the occupation of farming. He was a democrat in politics and gave staunch support to that party. His wife was a native of Ridgefield township and a daughter of Philip Harpster and she passed away at an early age, leaving three chil-

dren to mourn her loss, of which number Edward, of this review, was the youngest. Frank, the eldest, resides at Monroeville, Ohio, and Nellie, who married Fred Hohler, lives on a part of the farm operated by Edward Mushett. Her husband is at present mining in the gold fields of Alaska. After the death of his first wife Alexander Mushett wedded Jemima Simmons and both are now deceased, the former passing away January 12, 1907.

On the farm upon which he was born Edward Mushett was reared to manhood, acquiring his education in the district schools and assisting in the work of the fields. He has never followed any other occupation than that of farming nor has he had any desire to engage in any other line of business inasmuch as he has been most successful in his agricultural pursuits. He now owns a third interest in the home farm upon which he resides. It consists of one hundred and forty-four acres of land, which was originally cleared by his father, who also placed all of the improvements upon the place.

On the 24th of October, 1900, Mr. Mushett was united in marriage to Miss Anna Enderle, a daughter of Charles and Louisa (Kerris) Enderle, of Groton township, Erie county, Ohio, and unto them have been born three children, Leona, Clifford and Ellen, all at home.

Mr. Mushett belongs to the Lutheran church and he also holds membership in the National Protective Legion. He is highly esteemed throughout the community by reason of his genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character. He is public-spirited in citizenship and always lends his aid on the side of reform, progress and improvement, while he stands inflexibly for truth and justice on all occasions.

AMBROSE FRAYER.

The man to whom above all others the village of Greenwich owes its progress and the excellence of its municipal improvements and also its financial prosperity, is Ambrose Frayer. This public-spirited citizen was born in Greene county, New York, in the Catskill mountains, July 7, 1820, and is a son of Isaac and Charity (Leming) Frayer, who came with their family to Huron county, Ohio, in 1832, and engaged in farming. They had seven children: Ambrose, Loren, Philea Ann, Elliott, Earl, Amanda and Evaline, all of whom grew to maturity, though Ambrose and Evaline are the only ones who have survived to the present. The father died in 1889, at the age of eighty-three, outliving his wife by twenty years, she having died at the comparatively early age of forty. They were a highly respected couple, for they possessed many sterling traits of character.

Ambrose Frayer grew up at home and remained under the guidance of his parents until he was twenty-one years of age. He received his education at the little log country school and by reading at home in the chimney corner, with a hickory torch for a light. These were not large opportunities for winning a knowledge of books and men, but even as a boy he was a great reader, and through his association in later years with persons of high education has become a man singularly well informed upon matters of general interest and competent to render discriminating and good judgment. When he attained his majority he left the parental roof and

engaged in farm work for others by the month. He soon was able to buy a tract of wild land, which he cleared, and to this kept adding until he had a farm of two hundred acres. He was successful from the start, and this place was but the nucleus of the six hundred and forty acres which he afterward possessed, all excellent land. For a number of years, in addition to his farming he raised fine thoroughbred horses and was about the first to introduce full blood merino sheep into Huron county. In these lines, as in agriculture, he prospered well, and he became known throughout the state and elsewhere as the breeder of roadsters of the finest quality. Upon both sheep and horses his judgment was often eagerly sought. Always alert to see the possibilities for improvement, he patented a fanning mill and a gate, the rights to manufacture which he sold in other states, thereby reaping a considerable amount. He established a factory for the making of the fanning mills at Plymouth, which was successfully conducted for a number of years. At the same time he engaged in general farming and the success of one seemed never to be gained at the expense of the other.

His interests in the welfare and advancement of Greenwich are just as numerous and have borne just as profitable returns. The size of the village and business conducted there demanded a local bank and Mr. Frayer was foremost in the organization of the Greenwich Banking Company—the first bank established there. It was incorporated under the banking laws of the state of Ohio, with a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars, Mr. Frayer being vice-president at the time of its organization, and at one time president. Later he severed his connection with that bank and assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Greenwich, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, becoming vice-president, which position he has held to the present time, in this way having a guiding hand upon its affairs. It has been a very successful institution and has always been conducted along conservative lines. His other important commercial interest is that of the Greenwich Creamery Company.

As both township trustee and treasurer he served the people for a number of years, and for a long period was a member of the village council. While filling the latter office he proposed and carried to completion many municipal improvements of which the residents are now very proud, though in the beginning they opposed such progress. It owes its splendid water system and electric lighting plant to his agitation and also the brick paved streets. In short he has always stood for advancement and better conditions.

Mr. Frayer has been married twice, his first wife being Miss Adeline Lee, a daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Smith) Lee, of Huron county. Of this union there were born five children: David O.; Luella, deceased, the wife of Samuel Kelso of Mussell Fork, Missouri; Eugene; Mary, now Mrs. Arthur T. Burnell; and Lina, who married Dr. Harry Fulstow, of Norwalk. Of these Eugene is a lawyer in New York city, and Mr. and Mrs. Burnell are prominent educators. Mrs. Frayer died September 19, 1874, and Mr. Frayer married Mrs. Lucy A. Mickey, the widow of Thomas Mickey. She passed away March 26, 1901. Appreciating from his own lack of it the value of a fine education Mr. Frayer has given his children the best that could be obtained, and they have all made excellent use of the advantages thus put within their reach. They are well established in life, and all are progressing in their various vocations.

Mr. Frayer has always been a very active man and at the age of eighty-nine, he retains his interest in public affairs and looks after his business concerns as he has for many years past. He still owns a fine farm of four hundred acres, although Mr. Nelson Van Aken, who has been in his employ for twenty-six years, superintends it. In the fraternal organization to which he belongs he is also active. He was one of the charter members of the Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., and has held all offices in the blue lodge. He is also a Royal Arch Mason and has been connected with the order for fifty-three years. In religious matters he gives his support to the Congregational church and has always been intimately identified with the affairs of that body. In short, to sum up the results of his many years, no man has wielded a broader influence for good and progress than has Mr. Frayer. If the good health of the past is vouchsafed him in the future—an idea of which may be gained from the fact that he has never found the need of glasses for even the finest print—there is every reason to look for the extension of this influence.

WILLIAM E. JOINER.

William E. Joiner, who has the distinction of being the oldest assessor in Greenfield township and in fact in Huron county, was born in the house in which he now lives, September 8, 1839, and is the son of Azias and Philura (Newberry) Joiner. The father was born July 20, 1797, in Colerain township, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, where his father, William Joiner, was a school teacher. In the spring of 1818 he came to this county from Cayuga county, New York, having made the greater part of the journey on foot. He bought a tract of two hundred and fifty acres in Greenfield township and in 1825 returned to Connecticut to obtain the deed to his land. He came back immediately and made this farm his home until his death. In 1831 he married Miss Philura Newberry, who for almost half a century was his companion on the highroad of life, enduring the hardship of living in an uncleared forest, for Mr. Joiner had much work to do before he could cultivate his land. Unto them were born three children: William E., of this review; Wallace O., born March 22, 1842, a resident of Hillsdale, Michigan; and Mary, who was born January 5, 1844, and died October 10, 1871. She was the wife of Watson T. Smith, also deceased. Mrs. Joiner was called to her final rest December 29, 1887, and her husband followed in a little more than a year, his death occurring May 16, 1889. He was a man of fine education and a great reader, who had ever evinced a fondness for mathematics. He was a public-spirited man as well and had held the office of township trustee. In the affairs of life he had prospered, through hard work, careful attention to details, and good management.

William E. Joiner has lived on his present farm all his life. He was permitted a longer school period than many youths of the country can enjoy, for he was twenty-three before he discontinued his lessons. He took a course in double and single entry bookkeeping for he had looked forward to entering the commercial world and winning success and a reputation as an accountant. It was his father's wish, however, that he return to the farm and conduct its affairs—a wish in which the son

acquiesced. He has been fortunate in his agricultural experiments, his fields are models of careful cultivation and his crops reveal what hard work may do. He has also entered into the life of the township. He is known as the oldest assessor of Huron county having been first elected thirty years ago on the republican ticket. He has since served sixteen years, and on the occasion of one election received all but one of the votes cast in his township.

On the 14th of September, 1865, Elder Hahurst pronounced the words that made William E. Joiner and Miss Emma L. May man and wife. The ceremony was performed at North Fairfield, Ohio, and the union has been blessed with two children: Erininnie L., born March 17, 1867, became the wife of Charles H. Swigard, a civil engineer, who has charge of the irrigation improvements in the state of Washington, but she died June 26, 1891. They have one child, Minnie L., who lives with her grandfather, William E. Joiner. Hattie, the second daughter, married E. H. Bouten and lives at North Fairfield, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Joiner have also reared a niece, Dessie, the daughter of Watson F. Smith, who is now married to George Trimmer and lives at Peru, Ohio.

Mr. Joiner is a member of the Congregational church and takes a prominent part in its work. A man of ability and unquestioned integrity, he has won a place in the hearts of the residents of his township, as was attested by the fact that there was but one dissenting vote at his election to the position he has held so long, and in fulfilling the duties of which he takes such a pride.

WILLIAM HAMILTON McPHERSON, SR.

William Hamilton McPherson, Sr., a prosperous and progressive agriculturist of Bronson township, where he owns a farm comprising one hundred and sixty-one acres of land, was born in Greenfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 14th of June, 1842, his parents being James and Jane (Arthur) McPherson. The father was born in Scotland in 1814 and in early life accompanied his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William McPherson, on their removal to Londonderry, Ireland, but a few years later the family came to this country, locating on the farm in Bronson township, Huron county, Ohio, where our subject now makes his home and where his grandfather died. His father, James McPherson, became a resident of Greenfield township and lived there until his death. In his family were three sons: George, John and William H. Our subject's maternal grandparents were John and Mattie (Easterly) Arthur.

William H. McPherson, of this review, remained a resident of his native township until he came into possession of his grandfather's old homestead in Bronson township in 1888, living here continuously since. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devotes his time and energies. In the operation of his farm he displays practical and effective methods which produce good results, as seen in the abundant harvests which he annually gathers.

Mr. McPherson has been married twice, his first union being with Miss Lucy Wheeler, a daughter of John Wheeler, by whom he had three children: Arthur,

William H. and Scott. Following the death of his first wife he was again married, on the 29th of June, 1881, his second union being with Miss Margaret Mutch, whose birth occurred April 28, 1861. Her parents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Davidson) Mutch, were natives of Scotland and, emigrating to America about 1858, first located in Canada but subsequently crossed the border into the United States. By his second wife Mr. McPherson has two children, namely: Clyde, born in 1883; and Glenn, who was born in 1890.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. McPherson has given his support to the men and measures of the republican party and is at present serving as a trustee of Bronson township. Fraternally he is identified with the Macca-bees, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church at Olena, Ohio. In the county where he spent his entire life, now covering a period of more than two-thirds of a century, he has gained an extensive circle of warm friends by reason of his upright and honorable manhood.

PHILIP HERNER.

Philip Herner, numbered among the successful and enterprising agriculturists of Peru township, owns a half interest in the farm of one hundred and eighty-seven acres on which he resides with his brother Fred. He was born in Sherman township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 12th of December, 1862, his parents being Phedius and Lena (Hilderbrand) Herner, both of whom were natives of Germany. In early manhood the father crossed the Atlantic to the United States and took up his abode in Sherman township, this county, where he made his home throughout practically the remainder of his life, devoting his attention to the cultivation of a farm of eighty acres which he had purchased. His demise occurred in Peru township in 1905, when he had attained the age of sixty-eight years, while his wife was called to her final rest in 1904 at the age of sixty-seven years.

Their union was blessed with thirteen children, the record of whom is as follows: Mary, who is the wife of Christ Bauman and resides in Indiana; Margaret, who gave her hand in marriage to Lawrence Linder, of Peru township; Phedius, living in Peru township; Emma, who is deceased; Philip, of this review; Elizabeth, who is the wife of George Schild and makes her home in Peru township; Kathryn, the wife of Charles Schild, who likewise resides in Peru township; William, of Monroeville, Ohio; Jacob, who has passed away; Minnie, who is the wife of Albert Heyman, of Sherman township; Charles, living in Greenfield township; Fred, who wedded Miss Minnie Herbin, by whom he has two children, Gilbert R. and Arthur F.; and Lottie, who is also deceased.

Philip Herner spent the first ten years of his life in Sherman township and obtained his education in the district and German schools at Pontiac. Since the age of ten years he has made his home in Peru township and has always followed agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood. The farm of one hundred and eighty-seven acres which he owns in partnership with his brother Fred was purchased by them from their father and they have brought the property under a high state of cultivation and improvement. Alert, enterprising and progressive,



MR. AND MRS. PHIDEUS HERNER

they have met with a well merited measure of prosperity in their farming operations and have gained favorable recognition as representative and substantial citizens of the community. The brothers belong to the Lutheran church at Pontiac and their honorable and upright lives have made them well worthy the regard which is uniformly accorded them.

M. C. PRICE.

M. C. Price needs no introduction to the readers of this volume for he is at the head of the Norwalk Piano Company, one of the leading commercial institutions of the city of Norwalk. Moreover he is a worthy and honored representative of one of the oldest and best known families of this part of Ohio. He comes of a family of English-Welsh descent and the sterling qualities of the founder have been reproduced in the descendants. The Prices and Hatfields are supposed to have laid out the city of Baltimore, Maryland, and in 1664, Christopher Price leased Price's Commons, now an important part of the city, for ninety-nine years. He afterward exchanged his lease of land for a horse which he mounted and rode over the mountains to Lexington, Kentucky, where he reared his large family. His descendants have never sought to figure prominently in public life, but have been of the solid and substantial men and women of their various communities where they have acquired good homes and won honorable names. Of this family, Governor Price, the founder of Leesville, Ohio, is a representative. When on a visit to Pennsylvania, he met Miss Sarah Rippeth, who afterward became his wife. They returned to Lexington, Kentucky, and to them were born the following named: Kit, William, James, John, Joseph, Basil, Joshua, Benjamin, Linda, the wife of John N. Adair, a merchant and hatter; Anna, the wife of Dr. Lawthers; Mrs. Sarah Smith; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Dr. Watkins; and Mrs. Rebecca Brisbin. In about 1812, Governor Price rode on horseback from Lexington, Kentucky, and spent the night in a log cabin where the cemetery is now located. He bought a tract of land and returned to Lexington and when he again came to Ohio made his way up the river to Steubenville, a sparsely settled town. He was accustomed to hard work and immediately commenced the task of felling the trees and building a log cabin but the primitive home was soon afterward replaced by a brick dwelling. The family made their linen from the flax which they grew and their sugar from the maples in their camp. Governor Price was a farmer, but much of his time was spent in clearing land. He laid out the town of Leesville and at a public dinner the lots were sold at auction. In early manhood, he became a member of the Baptist church, but afterward united with the Universalist church and always took an active part in its meetings. He lived a life of usefulness and died honored by all. His sons settled principally near Leesville, although a few of the family went west.

James Price of this family was born at Lexington, Kentucky, November 17, 1799. He came up the river with his father, Governor Price, in a rowboat when about two years old and when they stopped for dinner, he was left on the bank

and was not missed until they were several miles up the stream when the family returned for him. As a boy, he assisted in clearing up the land and afterward learned the cabinetmaker's trade, becoming an expert workman. On the 14th of June, 1821, he married Miss Mary Holmes, a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Holmes. She died October 2, 1865, and James Price afterward wedded Mrs. Gartrell. Mr. Price lived to see cities established where forests stood and the few friendly Indians disappear before the advancing modern civilization. He was born when Ohio was still a territory and lived to see many states added to the Union. His life was spent in honest industry and was fraught with many good deeds and characterized by kindly assistance to others. He embodied in his life the truth of Christianity without its forms and won the respect and good will of all who knew him. His children were: Clun, Sarah, Elizabeth, John, Susan, Samuel E., Bazaleel, Isaac T., Rezin, James C., and Meredith C.

Of this family, Clun Price was born April 2, 1822, acquired a common school education and took up the study of medicine with Dr. Smith, of Moorefield, Ohio. He was afterward graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College and successfully practiced his profession. He married Linda Hines and located at Birmingham, Ohio. Their children were: Meredith C., Galen, John, Will, Tude and Linnie. The sons all became connected with the drygoods trade. In politics, Mr. Price was a republican and he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Sarah Price, the eldest daughter of James Price, was born November 3, 1823, and was a lady of many excellent traits of character. On the 20th of April, 1843, she became the wife of Amos Carr, a teacher, surveyor and merchant, who was a natural leader among men and had influence, because of his personal worth and ability. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carr were born the following named: Lorin, Ermina, Annie, Ada V., Lish and Lou. Of this family, Lorin was born in 1851, and he displays many of the sterling traits exhibited by his worthy father. After acquiring his education, he turned his attention to merchandising and later completed the study of law and was admitted to the bar, but abandoned his profession to accept a clerkship in the Ohio house of representatives. Later he became connected with the railway mail service. In November, 1875, he married Lillian Hunt and they had a family of two sons and a daughter. Ermina Carr, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Carr, was born February 2, 1856, was accorded good educational advantages, and in 1871, became the wife of Alfred Canaga, of the United States navy, who was formerly professor of naval tactics at Cornell University, Utica, New York, but is now deceased. They have one son, Bruce. Annie Carr, born October 25, 1858, married C. M. Rippeth, a successful and popular merchant, and has one child, Mina. Ada V., born December 24, 1859, was educated at the public schools of Baltimore, Maryland, at Scio College, and the Valparaiso (Indiana) Normal, from which institution, she was graduated. She was no less esteemed for her educational attainments than for her splendid womanly qualities, and has made an excellent record as a teacher. Lish Carr, born May 15, 1865, attended the Leesville schools and later was graduated from Campbell University at Holton, Kansas. She married W. F. Holmes, a farmer near Leesville. Lou Carr, born April 24, 1867, was graduated from the public schools of Clinton, Missouri, winning honors in scholarship, and on the 22d of October, 1888, she married A. D. Walker, an attorney of Holton, Kansas.

Susan Price, a daughter of James Price, was born August 20, 1825, and died October 16, 1855. Her life was characterized by many noble qualities and kindly acts which endeared her to all who knew her.

Elizabeth Price, the next member of the family, was born January 17, 1827, and became the wife of Ecton Roby, but both are now deceased. Their children were Maud, the wife of Webster Heron, a prominent business man of Columbus; Eva, the wife of Charles Wheaton, of South Bend, Indiana; and Merritt.

John Price, another son of James Price, was born October 12, 1829, and became a millwright. When a young man, he went west, secured employment at Taylorville, Illinois, and soon formed a partnership in the milling business. He has developed an extensive enterprise, his trade extending over several states. His wife bore the maiden name of Hattie Cogle.

Samuel E. Price, the next member of the family, born October 31, 1831, was educated in Hopedale College and afterward engaged in teaching school for a time and then read law with Judge Hance, of New Philadelphia. He married Miss Carrie Smith, principal of the New Philadelphia schools, and removed to Clinton, Missouri, to practice law. In his profession, he has shown marked ability, attaining high rank among the lawyers of that locality, while he and his wife have been active in educational work. He has been chosen and served as president of the board of education of Clinton.

Bazael Price, born October 8, 1833, was educated in the common schools and began clerking for his brother-in-law, Amos Carr, at Leesville, while later, he became proprietor of the store, being regarded for many years as the leading merchant of Harrison and Carroll counties. In business matters, he was a man of strict integrity, never weighing any act in the scale of public opinion, and his career was at all times useful and honorable. He was a strong abolitionist, who did valuable service in the anti-slavery cause and became an enthusiastic republican, but supported Horace Greeley in 1872, and afterward voted the democratic ticket. On August 7, 1856, he married Jennie Burr, a daughter of the late Dr. Joseph S. Burr, and they had three children, Orrin, Wendell and William. Of these Orrin was born February 24, 1859, and was married October 30, 1879, to Clara Finney. For years, he was in charge of one of the departments of the Joseph Horner Dry Goods Store, of Pittsburg. His brother William, born April 3, 1866, occupied a similar position with Giddings Brothers & Bent, of Colorado Springs. Wendell, born April 15, 1860, was graduated from the Northern Ohio University, August 28, 1883, and in 1889, married Florence Head, an accomplished musician and graduate of the same school. Wendell Price became well known in educational circles as principal of the Leesville schools.

James C. Price, son of James Price, Sr., was born November 15, 1835, and when eighteen years of age learned the mason's trade and as a contractor, built various churches, schools and public buildings. In 1859, during the Pikes Peak gold excitement, he with three others from Leesville, started for the gold fields and at Kansas City, bought an outfit for the trip. There they connected themselves with a wagon train of fourteen teams and seventy men and after a journey of seven weeks reached Denver, which at that time contained little but a government postoffice. Proceeding on their way to Colorado Springs, they met thousands of prospectors, who were devising all kinds of means whereby they might return to

the states. Of the party of seventy, only four remained. Mr. Price with a young man from Vermont, opened up a claim in what was then called Russell's Gulch, where they worked five men at two dollars and a half per day and board. Mr. Price spent his time prospecting between Mountain City and Pikes Peak and to the head of the Arkansas river. In the fall they returned to the states for winter quarters, again returning to the mines as before. In 1861, James C. Price returned to Ohio and in 1862, enlisted in the Forty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the war, he did contract work in Cadiz, Uhrichsville and New Philadelphia. He married Miss Martha English, of Mastersville, and afterward became proprietor of the United States Hotel at Leesville, Ohio. His children are: Burdell, Neva, De Forest and Fay.

Judge Isaac T. Price, a brother of James C. Price just mentioned above, was born November 27, 1837, and after acquiring a good literary education took up the study of law, was admitted to the Ohio bar, and afterward removed to Holton, Kansas, where he soon found clients and friends. His ability being of a high order, he easily won election three times to the office of probate judge. He has a family of four daughters: Effie, Ella, Myrile and Floy.

Rezin Price, born February 26, 1840, learned the woodworkers trade and for a number of years engaged in the furniture business and undertaking, but later entered the employ of the Edna Piano & Organ Factory, at Monroeville. He enlisted in the Union army and met all the hardships and privations of military life. He married Miss Jennie Kail and they became parents of three daughters and two sons: Effie, Pearl, Merritt, Orlo and Marie.

Merideth C. Price, born May 25, 1846, another son of Clun Price and the immediate subject of this review, was two years old when adopted by his grandfather, James Price, Sr. Under his care, he was reared to manhood. He was still pursuing his education when, constrained by a spirit of patriotism, he put aside his text-books and offered his aid to the government in February, 1864, enlisting when a boy of seventeen years as a member of Company A, Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was made a drummer boy and what he lacked in years he made up in valor and loyalty, sharing with the other soldiers in the many hardships of war, particularly the famous march to the sea. At the close of the war, July 8, 1865, he received his discharge and when he returned home resumed his education as a student in Mount Union College, where he remained until 1867, when he assumed the management of the drygoods store, owned by his uncle, B. W. Price. He remained with his uncle until 1874, and then established business on his own account as proprietor of a jewelry and music store. A year later, he bought out a stock of general merchandise and carried on business in the old Millisack corner until the fall of 1878, when he purchased the Crawford corner and thereon erected a model business block at a cost of nearly ten thousand dollars. Seeing the advantage of a newspaper, he established the Times and later on also published the Plaindealer from the Times office. On the 5th of December, 1890, he sold his stock to A. F. Kail and became the largest stockholder and also the manager of the Edna Piano & Organ Company, of Monroeville. He figures as one of the best known men of Leesville and contributes in large measure to the enterprise and upbuilding of the town, as well as to his individual success. He became the most extensive real-estate owner of the town, making investments

from time to time in property, and paying more than double the taxes of any other citizen. For twelve years, he remained in active connection with the Edna Piano & Organ Company and then established business in Norwalk, opening a piano and organ store in the Williams block on West Main street, under the name of the Norwalk Piano Company. He brought to the development of this enterprise the same spirit of determination, industry and keen discernment that had promoted his success in former years, and was soon at the head of one of the most important undertakings of this character in his section of Ohio. His store was fitted up as a handsomely furnished parlor, containing easy chairs, divans and tables, large mirrors and many beautiful pictures. The rooms contained also a large stock of pianos of many makes, including the Chickering, Kimball, Ivers & Pond, Corl, Wisner, Boston, Nelson, Haddorff, Weaver, Krell, Winter, National, Lagonda, Foster, Royal and Ropelt. He also carries a line of the best known makes of piano players, together with all kinds of string and wind instruments, and a large line of music and musical sundries. The establishment is altogether attractive in its appointments and the kind of goods carried and the business has reached extensive and profitable proportions. His trade now amounts to about seventy-five thousand dollars annually and the business not only covers the state of Ohio, but extends into almost every state in the Union. It has been developed along modern lines of trade and commerce and is permeated at all times by a spirit of undaunted enterprise and of unfaltering perseverance, which are essential factors to success.

Mr. Price has always figured quite largely in the public life of the community. Many times, he has been elected to offices of trust and sometimes the contest has been spirited, yet he has never been defeated. He is not only a favorite with the voters, but with all who know him, including his associates in business and his friends in social life. He is a good conversationalist with marked persuasive powers, to which his success as a salesman has been largely due. His business career shows him to be a man of undaunted energy, capable of despatching an astonishing amount of business and inspiring his employes with the same enthusiasm which he manifests. While not all days have been equally bright, he possesses the adaptability that has enabled him to use each situation to the utmost in his efforts to attain honorable success, and frequently, he has thus been enabled to turn threatened failures into victories. It is characteristic of him that he has always been warmhearted, generous and liberal, often accommodating others at a sacrifice of his own interests, and it has been truthfully said of him that no man was ever refused a favor when it was within his power to grant it. These qualities have won for him the admiration of all and his life record also displays many acts of kindness and benevolence. His nature is by no means self centered for he looks at life from the standpoint of a broad-minded man, who recognizes and utilizes his opportunities, not only for promoting his own interests, but of doing good to others. It has been truthfully said of him that he never tried to crush a rival, but only to obtain legitimate leadership, and he has extended a helping hand on many occasions to those who were traveling the same road as himself. For many years, he was regarded as a central figure in business circles of Leesville, becoming equally prominent in Monroeville, and has now won for himself a place of similar honor and importance in Norwalk.

Mr. Price is pleasantly situated in his home life. He was married November 14, 1901, to Miss Florence C. Canby, and unto them have been born three children: Meredith Canby, whose birth occurred February 20, 1903; and Charles Kenneth and Florence Emma, twins, born on the 1st of October, 1905. Mr. Price took deep interest in the Norwalk Centennial celebration, which was made a homecoming week, on which occasion, the men and women from all parts of the country returned to Huron county to again visit the scenes among which they had formerly lived. On the day which was set aside especially for Monroeville, the band from that town gathered in front of the store of the Norwalk Piano Company, playing several selections in honor of Mr. Price, who with his characteristic hospitality, then invited the entire number to a dinner at the Avalon. This was an expression of his warm heart and the open handed qualities which have endeared him to his fellowmen in strong ties of friendship.

JOSEPH HOHLER.

Joseph Hohler, well known in Huron county by reason of his former connection with mercantile interests and his present connection with agricultural affairs, lives in Peru township, where he owns ninety-nine acres of land. He was born in Pontiac, Peru township, on the 14th of March, 1856, his parents being Frederick G. and Catherine (Zipfel) Hohler, both of whom were natives of Germany. When fourteen years of age Frederick G. Hohler accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, the family home being established in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio. Here they purchased a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of timber land and for the first few years after their arrival in this county lived in a barn. This part of the state was still largely wild and undeveloped but they resolutely faced the hardships and privations of pioneer life and their labors proved an important element in the work of early development and upbuilding.

Frederick G. Hohler, the father of Joseph Hohler, passed away in 1866 at the age of forty-six years. His wife was also called to her final rest in the same year, having attained the age of forty-two. She had likewise made the voyage to this country in company with her parents, who located at Monroeville, Huron county. Peter Hohler, a brother of Frederick G. Hohler, passed away in Peru township at the venerable age of ninety-five years. He was a stalwart adherent of the democracy and on that ticket was elected to the offices of assessor and township trustee, the duties of which he capably discharged for a number of years. Unto Frederick G. and Catherine (Zipfel) Hohler were born seven children, namely: August, a resident of Monroeville; Peter, who is deceased; Agnes, the wife of Mathew Gable, of Berea, Ohio; Frances, who died at the Cleveland Sisters' Home, was a sister of charity, known as Sister Martin; Joseph, of this review; Leo, who lives in the old homestead in Peru township; and Fred, who is in Alaska.

In the acquirement of an education Joseph Hohler attended the district and German schools of Peru township, where he has resided from his birth to



JOSEPH HOHLER AND FAMILY

the present time. During his early life the family lived in a log house and on many occasions he would wake up in the morning to find several inches of snow on his bed. In early manhood he was engaged in the meat and liquor business at Monroeville for a number of years but throughout the greater part of his business career has been actively and successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits. About 1876 he bought his present farm of ninety-nine acres from Mr. Fitz and has since been engaged in its cultivation and improvement. At the time it came into his possession the only buildings on the place were an old house and barn, but as the years have gone by Mr. Hohler has made a number of substantial improvements which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

On the 15th of February, 1878, Mr. Hohler was united in marriage to Miss Frances Meyer, a native of Tiffin, Ohio, and a daughter of Samuel and Agetta (Hipp) Meyer, both of whom are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hohler have been born eleven children, as follows: Lucy, living at Monroeville, who is the wife of John C. Wilhelm, by whom she has three children—Milton, Vernon and Charles; Mamie, who is at home; Henry, a resident of Hunts Corners, who wedded Miss Mary Heater and has one child, Agnes; Lena, who is the wife of Rover Derringer, and lives in Ridgefield township; Edward, residing in Michigan, who married Miss Carrie Cook, by whom he has one child, Opal; Tillie, Peter and Clarence, all of whom are still under the parental roof; Josiah, who passed away at the age of five years; and Clemons and Celia, who are also at home.

In his political views Mr. Hohler is a stanch democrat and has served in the position of township school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. He is a faithful communicant of the Catholic church and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Columbus at Monroeville. He is now in the prime of life and enjoys to the fullest measure the many advantages afforded by the present day and, being progressive, and a man whose life has always been in keeping with high standards, he justly deserves the confidence and respect which are uniformly accorded him.

IRVING J. BROOKS.

Irving J. Brooks, the editor and owner of The Greenwich Enterprise, was born April 15, 1857, in Bronson township, Huron county, Ohio, and is the son of Franklin and Ann Eliza (Kennedy) Brooks, both of whom were natives of this county. The mother's ancestors came from the north of Ireland, but the father traced his to England, and counted among them several men who had played an important part in the history of this country from the earliest days. William Brooks, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a direct descendant of Lord Brooks of England, some of whose progeny came to America and held grants of land near the mouth of the Connecticut river, where the Say-Brooke fort of history, built to protect against the encroachments of the Dutch traders who claimed the territory,

was situated. William Brooks was graduated from Yale College with honors and entered upon the profession of teaching, which he followed for thirty-three years. During the Revolutionary war he served as quartermaster and took part in the battles of Bunker Hill and Stillwater and was a member of that sturdy band who brought about Burgoyne's surrender. After the establishment of the Union he was commissioned by the government to survey on the Western Reserve, and Huron county, Ohio, lay within his field of operation. On completing his work here, he returned to Vermont to bring his family to the new country. They arrived in 1817 and settled in Greenfield township, Huron county, after having made a trying journey of many days with an ox-team. The entire land was at that time covered with forests, in the midst of which the family settled, and which they immediately began to clear for the purpose of making a home. William Brooks was married, January 5, 1775, to Miss Keziah Haskell, who bore to him seven children.

Lemuel Sprague Brooks, the grandfather of Irving J. Brooks, was born in Windsor county, Vermont, October 29, 1806, and was ten years of age when his parents came to Ohio. He was a man of exceptional muscular power and carried off the honors wherever athletic sports were in favor. He married, at the age of twenty-seven, Miss Almira Adams, of North Fairfield, Ohio, who bore him two children, Franklin and Esther. Five years after this union he passed away, in 1838.

Franklin Brooks was born in Greenfield Huron county, Ohio, January 13, 1834. He grew up to be a man of fine mind, a farmer, and one who wielded no inconsiderable influence in his community. On the 1st of November, 1855, he was united in marriage to Miss Ann Eliza Kennedy, of Bronson, Huron county, by whom he had four children: Irving J., Gardiner A., Frank A. and Anna E. Franklin Brooks died December 11, 1897, but his wife still lives.

Irving J. Brooks was reared on the father's farm, was educated in the country schools, going thence to the Lebanon National Normal School, and to the normal school at Ada. For several years after completing his education he pursued the profession of teaching during the winter months and was both progressive and popular in this vocation. In the office of the Norwalk Chronicle he learned the printer's trade, with which trade he ever since has been closely connected. He left the Chronicle office to go to Cherokee, Iowa, as foreman of the Journal where he worked until 1885, when he went to Mankato, Minnesota, to fill the position of foreman on the Mankato Journal. Three years later he came to Greenwich, Huron county, Ohio, where he assumed the editorship and proprietorship of the Greenwich Enterprise holding it to the present. It is a weekly publication of influence in the homes and in affairs generally of the village and township. It professes an independent republican attitude in matters of political concern, but is an organ that makes for the good and progress of the community that supports it, and during the twenty years that Mr. Brooks has guided its destinies, has won for its owner and publisher the good will of his constituents. Not only does he own the paper and the printing plant and building, but he also conducts an up-to-date printing business. Yet these things do not consume all his time, for he has been able to devote a good deal of it to the service of the public. For a space of fifteen years he served as clerk of the township and of the township board of education for an equal period. He has also been a member of the school board of the village and also clerk for a number of years. In politics he is a republican and has been the Greenwich member of the Huron coun-

ty republican central committee and has frequently been sent to county conventions and been otherwise active in the party.

On April 15, 1886, Mr. Brooks was united in marriage, at Cherokee, Iowa, with Miss Lydia R. Ruggles, who was born in Waverly, Van Buren county, Michigan, August 21, 1865, a daughter of Charles P. and Henrietta C. (Hobart) Ruggles. Her father's people pride themselves on their blood, being an old family. Her mother was of Puritan descent, tracing a direct line of ancestry to John Alden and his wife Priscilla. Mr. and Mrs. Ruggles never became residents of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks are members of the Episcopal church, but as there is no place of worship of this denomination in Greenwich they attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church, in whose work and interests they have taken large part, Mr. Brooks having been for a number of years a member of the board of trustees, at present filling the office of president of this body, and having been superintendent of the Sunday school for a number of years, and his wife taking equally efficient interest.

Mr. Brooks belongs to a large number of organizations, fraternal, social, and such as are connected with his profession as journalist and printer. He was a charter member of the Forest Lodge, No. 145, Knights of Pythias, of Norwalk; is a member of Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., in which he has filled many offices; also of the New London Chapter, No. 110, R. A. M.; and of the National Union. He is on the roll of members of the Audubon Society of Cincinnati; of the International Typographical Union of Toledo; of the Buckeye Press Association; and of the Sons of Temperance, of Norwalk. He was formerly a member of Company G, Sixteenth Ohio National Guard, from which he holds an honorable discharge from service. In his private life, in his public activities, and as the editor of a paper that is a factor in the village, Mr. Brooks wields an influence that is refining, elevating and educational, one too that is widely felt in the community. Mrs. Brooks is well known in the social gatherings of the village, and the home over which she presides is one of the most attractive and modern of those here.

ARTHUR UNDERHILL.

Arthur Underhill, a resident of Norwalk, is a railway mail clerk in the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. He was born in Ridgefield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 6th of March, 1867, a son of Isaac and Lydia (Gregory) Underhill. The father, a native of Herkimer county, New York, accompanied his parents, David and Mary (Osborne) Underhill, on their removal to this county in the year 1817. David Underhill, the grandfather of our subject, became the owner of considerable land in this vicinity and operated the first sawmill in the county. He had first visited this section of the state in 1810 in order to locate land and subsequently made several more trips to Huron county, doing quite a little trading with the Indians. In the construction of his sawmill, which was built in 1815, he employed the services of nearly all the men in the county at that time. He also assisted in laying out the town of Norwalk and was a charter member of the Masonic lodge at that place, which held some of its first meetings in his home.

One of his daughters, Harriett, who was the first white woman to be married in Ridgefield township, became the wife of Major Strong, in whose honor Strong's Ridge was named. When David Underhill was called to his final rest in 1844 the community mourned the loss of one of its most worthy and respected pioneer settlers, whose labors proved an important factor in the work of early development and upbuilding.

Subsequent to the demise of his father, Isaac Underhill continued to operate the sawmill until 1879 and remained a resident of Ridgefield township from the time of his arrival in this county until he passed away on the 15th of March, 1885, in the faith of the Baptist church. His wife, who was a devoted and faithful member of the Presbyterian church, was called to the home beyond on the 1st of October, 1907. Unto this worthy couple were born five children, as follows: Isaac M., who is deceased; Isabelle F., likewise deceased, who was the wife of Arthur Sprague, by whom she had one child, Kathryn B.; Edwin, who wedded Miss Myrtle Husted and has a son, Roy; Arthur, of this review; and a daughter who died in infancy.

Arthur Underhill obtained his education in the schools of Norwalk and after putting aside his text-books took up his abode on the home farm, where he continued to reside until 1893. In that year he entered the railway mail service as a clerk on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad but at the end of six months was transferred to the Big Four Railroad, his run being from Cleveland to Cincinnati. Subsequently he was transferred to the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, in which position he has remained to the present time, his run being between Cleveland and Utica, New York. He is the owner of a well improved and productive farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Ridgefield township, also owns some property in Norwalk and is altogether a most prosperous, enterprising and progressive citizen of his native county.

In December, 1884, Mr. Underhill was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Mahler, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Mahler, of Ridgefield township. The three children born of this union are as follows: Clarence, who married Miss Gertrude La Reau, of Monroe, Michigan, lives on his father's farm. He has one son, James A. Clara, twin sister of Clarence, is a graduate of St. Luke's Hospital and is now a trained nurse of Cleveland, Ohio. Jennie is still under the parental roof. Mr. Underhill is well and favorably known throughout the county in which his entire life has been spent and in the development and progress of which both his father and grandfather bore an important part.

WILLIAM BOEHLER.

William Boehler, who is now living retired in an attractive and comfortable home in Monroeville, Ridgefield township, was for many years identified with agricultural interests of Huron county. He was born in Lyme township, this county, on the 29th of December, 1852, a son of John Philip and Margaret (Seible) Boehler, both natives of Germany. The father, whose birth occurred on the 7th of November, 1823, came to the United States when twenty-six years of age, coming di-

rect to Ohio, where he located in Huron county. Upon his arrival here he was entirely without funds and was compelled to work by the month in various places throughout the county. His was a determined and energetic spirit, however, and by hard labor and careful saving he had accumulated, after three years, sufficient means to purchase a farm of eighty acres located in Lyme township. After a year he sold this property and purchased one hundred acres in Sherman township. Three years later he also sold this farm and removed to Peru township, where he bought land from George Turner, one of the oldest farmers in this county. He resided upon this farm for about forty-one years, actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, and then retired from business life, removing to Bellevue. He remained in the latter place, however, **only** about two months, and then took up his abode in Monroeville, where his remaining days were spent, his death occurring May 3, 1897. He had been most successful in his undertakings and became recognized as one of the extensive land owners of this county, his property holdings at the time of his demise amounting to eight hundred acres. He was also well known among local democratic ranks, serving as township trustee, school director and road supervisor of Peru township. He was also an active worker in church circles and assisted in erecting the Lutheran church at Pontiac and during his connection with that church was almost continuously in office. He wedded Margaret Seible, who was born in 1830 and came to Huron county with her parents when twenty-one **years of age**. Here she passed away on the 22d of June, 1883. In the family of this worthy couple were six children, namely: William, of this review; Henry; Minnie, the wife of John P. Meyers, of Ridgefield township; Louise, the wife of Charles Heyman, residing in Peru township; Philip, a farmer of Peru township, residing on the old homestead; and Otto, whose sketch, in connection with that of his brother Henry, will be found elsewhere in this volume.

William Boehler, whose name introduces this review, was reared on his father's farm and has continued to make his residence in this county. He acquired his education in the district and summer schools. He remained at home, assisting his father in the cultivation of the fields, until he attained manhood, when he started out in business on his own account, operating a farm which he had received from his father. He had early become familiar with the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting and, energetic and persevering by nature, he at once bent his energies toward the development of his property. He made a large number of improvements on the place, which consisted of one hundred and thirty-two acres of land in Peru township, erected substantial outbuildings and installed all the modern equipment and accessories necessary to facilitate the work of the farm. It is now one of the finely improved farms of the township. He operated this place for about thirty-two years and his close application to business and his excellent management at last brought to him a substantial competence which enabled him to retire from active work, and, renting his farm to his son, he removed to Monroeville, where he purchased some property and where he now makes his home.

On the 4th of January, 1877, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Boehler and Miss Mary Heyman, a daughter of William A. and Janette (Mohr) Heyman, who were both old settlers of Huron county. The birth of Mrs. Boehler occurred June 25, 1854, in Lyme township. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Boehler has been blessed with eight children. The eldest, Louisa, is the wife of Charles Scheid and resides

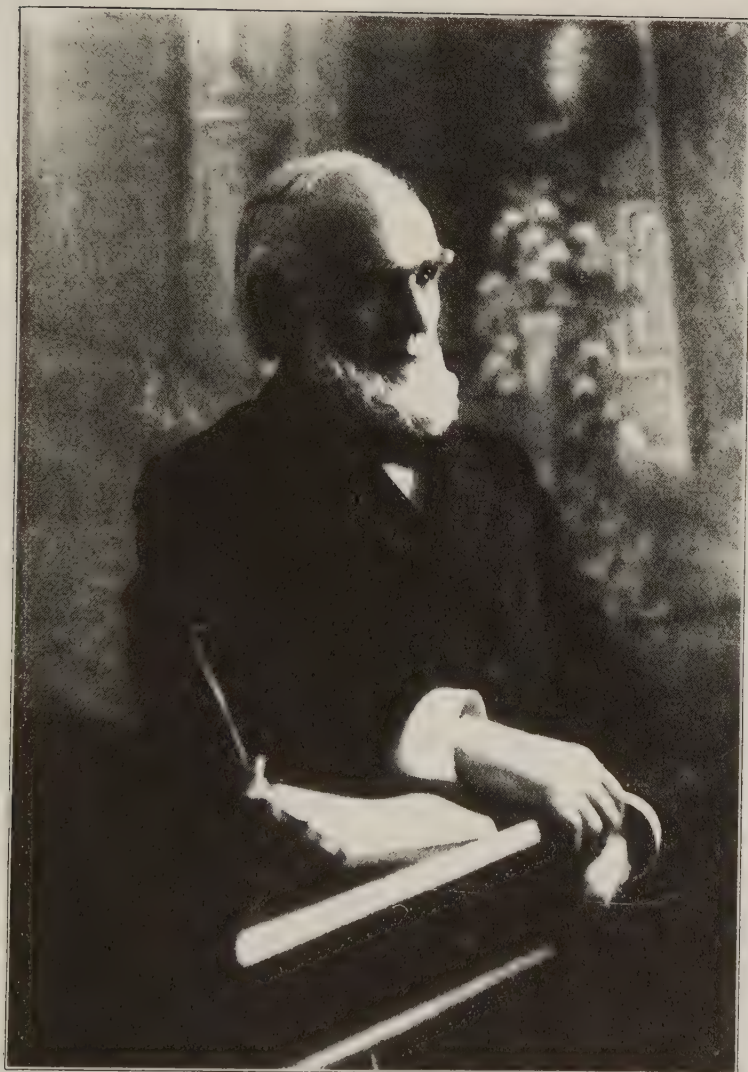
in Sherman township. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children, Mable, Ada, Marian and Olive. August L., who was born August 6, 1879, married Anna Meyer and lives on the old homestead farm, which he operates for his father. He is serving as school director of Peru township and is also a trustee of the Lutheran church. Anna, who wedded Alvin Groff, died on the 6th of September, 1908, at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving besides her husband one son, Morris, who resides with our subject. Minnie, the fourth in order of birth, passed away on the 8th of May, 1904, at the age of twenty-one years. Amanda, who married Henry Meyer, resides in Ridgefield township. Edith and Carl are still at home, while Elmer, the youngest of the family, passed away at the age of four months.

Mr. Boehler is one of the prominent members of the Lutheran church at Pontiac, of which he is serving as elder and in the work of which he is deeply and helpfully interested. He is a stalwart democrat in political allegiance and on that ticket was elected township trustee, in which capacity he served for ten years. He was also school director for some time, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion, and he has also been elected to fill various other minor offices. Public-spirited in his citizenship, he readily lends his influence to all matters which have for their object the material, political, intellectual and moral advancement and up-building of the community. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of honest labor, and he stands today as one of the substantial and prosperous representatives of his native county, while his genuine personal worth and sterling traits of character have gained for him a high place in the esteem and regard of his fellowmen.

T. F. HILDRETH, A. M., D. D.

Rev. T. F. Hildreth is numbered among those to whom the spirit of youthful energy and enthusiasm clings while time passes by and may, therefore, be termed "eighty-two years young," for while he has covered more than eight decades since starting upon the journey of life, in his interests he seems a man yet in his prime, his cheerful word, ready smile and encouraging sympathy making him popular alike among young and old, rich and poor, in his home town. He has resided continually in Norwalk since 1885. He was born in Tompkins county, New York, November 29, 1826, and was the third son of Benjamin and Susan (Colegrove) Hildreth, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. In 1833 the family home was established in Huron county, Ohio, where the father died September 20, 1852, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife survived him until March 15, 1855, and passed away at the age of sixty years. They had a family of nine children, four daughters and five sons.

The Rev. T. F. Hildreth was but seven years of age when they came to Huron county and in the district schools of the early day he pursued his preliminary education. He also assisted in clearing and cultivating the old home farm until nineteen years of age, being busily employed at the task of cutting down the trees, grubbing up stumps and preparing the fields for cultivation. He after-



T. F. HILDRETH

ward studied for two terms in the old Norwalk Academy and throughout his entire life he has remained a student and a broad reader, thus gaining wide general information as well as thorough and accurate knowledge of the teachings of the church. Rev. Hildreth was but eleven years of age when he was converted and when a youth of sixteen he united with the church of his father, thus becoming identified with Methodism. He felt called to the ministry but before he had fully decided to enter upon a career of that character he took up the study of law under the direction of the Hon. Samuel T. Wooster of Norwalk. He had not completed his law studies, however, when he was licensed to preach as a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and was received on trial in the north Ohio conference at Bellefontaine on the 22d of August, 1851. He occupied several important charges prior to 1864 when he was transferred to the New York conference and assigned to the pastorate of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church on Thirty-fourth street. There his health failed and he resigned in 1867, in which year he returned to the northern Ohio conference. Here his health improved and he was given charge of the Methodist Episcopal church in Norwalk, remaining as its pastor for three years when by the special request of the church at Ionia, Michigan, he was transferred to that place. He held three appointments of three years each but his health again gave way and he returned to Norwalk. Later he again entered into active relations with the northern Ohio conference and was again appointed minister of the Norwalk church, in which capacity he served for three years. He next had charge of the Lorain Street Methodist Episcopal church in Cleveland but after one year he severed his connection with the conference and took charge of the People's Tabernacle church at Music Hall, an undenominational organism composed chiefly of those who desire to do gospel temperance work. There he remained for two years when upon the death of its founder and patron, Hon. W. H. Doan, he retired to his quiet home in Norwalk where he has since remained.

In 1863 the Ohio Wesleyan University conferred upon the Rev. Hildreth the degree of Master of Arts and in 1887 the degree of Doctor of Divinity. His ability as an orator made him greatly sought for at church dedications and on other special occasions. He had few equals in the pulpit or on the public platform and was purely an extemporaneous speaker. While well versed in all branches of learning, his style is simple and concise. He learned to think along classical lines but to speak in the language of the common people and it has been the power of the truth of his utterances clearly, forcefully and cogently presented that has made strong appeal to his hearers. He is a fluent writer and a poet of no mean ability. He has written many poems of merit which he has published in two volumes, bringing forth his *Poems of the Heart* in 1903 and *Poems of the Home* in 1907. These collections contain many gems and have been very warmly received by the press and the people. His views of life have ever been sane and rational, presenting a clear understanding of the conditions of the present time as well as the ideals presented in the Christian religion.

In 1849 Dr. Hildreth was married to Mrs. Eudolphia C. Cherry, who was to him a genial and loving companion and helpmate until she was called from his side by death on the 30th of August, 1900, leaving the Doctor to finish his journey alone. He is a remarkably well preserved man despite his eighty-three

years, bright, genial and cheerful, of noble character, active in mind and body. He is a splendid example to the rising generation of what a clean, temperate and Godly life will do. Among his fellow townsmen he is very popular and his words and work are yet a matter of strong influence among those with whom he is daily brought in contact. His work has been far-reaching in its effects and like the echoes which "roll from soul to soul" will "live forever and forever," for the seeds of truth and righteousness never die but bring forth fruit throughout all the ensuing years.

E. L. BEELMAN.

E. L. Beelman, who is well known in the business circles of Huron county as the secretary and treasurer of the Beelman Manufacturing Company of Chicago, Ohio, has been active in its affairs since its inception and by his excellent business ability and keen sagacity has been a potent factor in its continuous and rapid progress. He was born in Richmond township, Huron county, on the 4th of May, 1867, a son of Joseph and Eliza Ann (Moore) Beelman, farmers of that township. The father, who originally came from Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, where his birth occurred, settled in Richmond township, Huron county, where he purchased two hundred acres of land, which he continued to operate up to the time of his demise. He became a prominent figure in the public affairs of that township, having during his residence therein filled all of the township offices, while he was county commissioner for two terms, and served as justice of the peace for several years. He also taught school for some time in Huron county, and in politics was a stalwart republican. He passed away May 4, 1883, at the age of sixty-four years, while his wife survived until 1887. In their family were nine children, namely: George, of Columbus, Ohio; W. S. and H. M., both of Chicago, Ohio; Jennie, the wife of Ed. Tanner, residing in Fairfield township; J. L., in partnership with his brother; E. L., of this review; Charles, who is engineer on the Toledo & Ohio Central Railroad; Sarah, who passed away at the age of eighteen years; and Anna, who also passed away when fourteen years old.

Reared upon the home farm, E. L. Beelman acquired his education in the district schools and until seventeen years of age remained under the parental roof, assisting his father in the operation of his farm. Then thinking to find other pursuits more congenial and profitable than agriculture, he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years. In 1902 he and his brother, J. L. Beelman, organized the present Beelman Manufacturing Company, with five stockholders and a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars. The other members of the board were C. B. Tudor, J. W. Sheidley and Glenn Tudor, while the officers were J. L. Beelman, president, J. W. Sheidley, vice-president, and E. L. Beelman, secretary and treasurer. In 1907 the firm increased its capital to fifty thousand dollars, with twelve stockholders, while the present officers are J. L. Beelman, president, William Glick, vice-president and E. L. Beelman, secretary and treasurer. The board of directors consists of J. L. and E. L. Beelman, Ed. Weaver, J. W. Sheidley and William Glick. The company does a general lumber business, manufacturing all kinds

of house furnishings and patent step-ladders, and from its inception has been signally successful, enjoying a rapid and continuous growth. The efforts of E. L. Beelman have been influential elements in its successful control and he has gained a high place among the progressive and prosperous business men of this district.

It was on Christmas day of 1889 that Mr. Beelman was united in marriage to Miss Estella Keesy, a daughter of John H. and Margaret (Johnson) Keesy, pioneer settlers of Richmond township where Mrs. Beelman was born and reared. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beelman were born three children, Letha, Fay and Laura, the eldest daughter, Letha, having graduated from the Chicago (Ohio) high school with the class of 1909 and now attending Athens Normal school. Mr. Beelman is trustee of the Chicago Lodge, No. 748, I. O. O. F., while in his politics he gives his allegiance to the republican party, although the honors and emoluments of public office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to direct his entire energies to the conduct of his personal affairs. He is preeminently a business man who has worked his way up by indefatigable energy and untiring perseverance, while, aside from the success which he has won in business, his personal characteristics are such as have gained him the respect, confidence and good will of his fellowmen.

HON. C. P. VENUS.

Hon. C. P. Venus is the chief executive of Norwalk, whose mayoralty record has been characterized by public-spirited devotion to the general good and by retrenchment in useless expenditure and the advocacy of progressive measures of improvement. At a crisis in the city's history, he proved himself equal to the emergency and with keen insight into the situation, met the conditions and instituted measures which were the salvation of Norwalk.

His birth occurred in this city, March 6, 1853, and he comes of German ancestry. His father, Sebastian Venus, was a native of Germany and while living in that country, learned the trade of a silversmith and jeweler. After coming to the new world, he established his home in Norwalk and here engaged in the jewelry business. From the Black Forests of Germany he imported the first clocks sold in Huron county and was a leading factor in the early commercial development of this part of the state. He married Elizabeth Amend, a native of Germany, who came to America with her parents during her early girlhood days. Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian Venus had a family of seven children, five of whom died in 1854 between the 4th and 7th of August, being carried away during the cholera epidemic of that year, the dread disease largely devastating Huron county. The surviving sister of our subject is Mrs. Rosie Fischer, a resident of Toledo, Ohio.

C. P. Venus was reared in this city and at the usual age became a pupil in the Norwalk public schools. He afterward attended St. Mary's Academy at Dayton, Ohio, and, making his initial step in the business world, he became a clerk in a shoe store, where he was employed for a few years. He then joined his mother in the grocery business, in which they continued for a number of years, and then sold out, Mr. Venus at that time becoming connected with the Taber Dry Goods Company. He was thus associated until elected city clerk, in which position he was

continued by a re-election for four years. He was next made deputy postmaster, serving in that capacity for four years, and for a similar period he was in the railway mail service during President Cleveland's first administration. At the close of his term as deputy postmaster, he took up the life insurance business, representing the New York Life Insurance Company, and has since continued in this field of activity with gratifying success, securing many patrons for the company and writing up a large amount of business each year.

In November, 1907, he was again called to public office, being elected mayor of Norwalk on the democratic ticket. He has given to the city a businesslike administration, has sought to secure restrictive and constructive legislation wherever needed and has done much practical work for the city's benefit. Shortly after taking the office several bank failures occurred in Norwalk, bringing about a crisis in the city's affairs. It was evident that something must be done to restore confidence. Mayor Venus calmly faced the situation, gave to it his earnest study, viewed the question from every possible standpoint and as a result, associated with him every prominent man in organizing the Chamber of Commerce which has since flourished and has done much for the city's upbuilding and the restoration of its financial status. He has acted as secretary of the chamber since its organization and his work in this connection has been most far-reaching and beneficial.

In 1875, Mr. Venus was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Kunzelman, who died in 1904, and unto them were born three sons and two daughters: Carl H., Louise M. and Robert E., surviving. The family is prominent in the social circles of the city and the hospitality of the Venus home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

Mr. Venus belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus and several other organizations. He is the originator and organizer of The Smile Club, which is one of the most charitable organizations ever started in Norwalk. With the assistance of several charitably inclined ladies and gentlemen of this city, this club was organized for the purpose of giving every needy child in Norwalk a bountiful Christmas and that its object has been carefully carried out may be ascertained by asking any waif in Norwalk. The club is still in existence and is a monument to the fertile brain and progressive and charitable spirit of Mr. Venus. He is an alert, energetic and enterprising man, who seems to realize the possibilities of every situation and in both his public and private affairs, has so co-ordinated forces and managed interests as to bring about the best possible conditions under the situation. His mayoralty record will ever remain a most creditable chapter in his life history.

LAMBERT M. CHAPIN.

Huron county numbers among its intelligent, enterprising and successful citizens Lambert M. Chapin, who for many years has been a prominent figure in agricultural circles and has also taken an active part in the public affairs of the community. Born in Hartland township, Huron county, upon the farm where he now resides, October 21, 1842, his birth occurred in a little log cabin which stood

but a few feet away from the site of the present modern dwelling. He is a son of Morris G. and Clarissa (Granger) Chapin, the former a native of Genesee county, New York, while the mother's birth occurred in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1825, the father accompanied his parents to Ohio when but a young lad and in this state the remainder of his life was spent. He was engaged to some extent in farming and became a large landowner, being one of the successful and influential residents of the community in which he resided. He was an ardent democrat, taking a very active part in all public affairs and he was a gentleman of wide information and intelligence, his name being a synonym for honesty and fair dealing. He passed away February 7, 1887, and his remains were interred in Woodland cemetery at Norwalk, to which city he had removed in 1880, after retiring from active business life. His wife was called to her final rest April 14, 1891, and was laid to rest beside her husband in Woodland. In their family were four children, all of whom are now living with exception of one daughter.

Reared to agricultural pursuits, Lambert M. Chapin spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the old homestead whereon he was born and upon which he has since continued to make his residence. He attended the district schools of Hartland township and when not engaged with his textbooks, his time was devoted to assisting his father in the work of the fields. He early became familiar with the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting and under the direction of his father learned many lessons concerning the value of industry, energy and perseverance. In 1878, he purchased the farm across the road from the old homestead and upon this place he has been busily engaged in general farming and stock raising, both branches of his business proving a source of gratifying remuneration to him. His property now consists of about three hundred and fifty acres of fine farm land, all under a high state of cultivation, so that he is ranked among the prosperous and substantial agriculturists of his part of the county.

On February 22, 1871, Mr. Chapin was united in marriage to Miss Martha J. Shipley, a daughter of Samuel P. and Harriet (Morrison) Shipley, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The parents came to Ohio with their respective parents when young people, settlement being made in Olena, Huron county, where Mr. Shipley was engaged in the carriage business. He passed away July 30, 1885, but his widow still survives at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Chapin has been blessed with three sons, namely: Elmer L., who is married and resides in Cleveland; Fred M., who is also married and operates a farm adjoining the old homestead; and Samuel S., likewise married, carrying on general farming in Bronson township. All of the sons are successful business men and are well known and prominent citizens in the communities in which they reside.

In his political relations, Mr. Chapin has always been a supporter of the republican party and has been very active in the public affairs of the community, having filled almost every office in the township. His public life has at all times been characterized with the same adherence to truth, right and justice as has been manifest in his private relations, and the consensus of public opinion accords him a foremost place among the valued citizens of Huron county. Fraternally, he holds membership in the Olena Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, of which his son Fred M. was a charter member, and in the affairs of which both

father and son have been extremely active. Mr. and Mrs. Chapin hold membership in the Presbyterian church, to which they are liberal contributors and deeply interested in the various phases of the church work, while Mr. Chapin is now serving in the capacity of church trustee. He has passed his entire life on the old homestead where he was born with the exception of a few years, when his sons were attending school. During that period the family lived in Norwalk but after they had completed their education, the family returned to the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Chapin have traveled extensively and have acquired a very wide general knowledge. They are readers of all the best current literature, and thus they are able to speak authoritatively upon all of the live topics of the day. The family residence is one of the most comfortable and attractive homes of Hartland township and is pervaded by an atmosphere of refinement and culture, which is both pleasing and uplifting. It is also the seat of a genuine and cordial hospitality, which makes it a favorite resort with a large circle of warm friends.

DANIEL S. WASHBURN.

Daniel S. Washburn, well known as a prominent and worthy representative of the agricultural interests of the county, and having large holdings in Greenwich and Ripley townships, was born April 8, 1843, near where he now resides and where he has always lived. He is the son of Henry G. and Ann Maria (Van Benschoten) Washburn, the father coming as a young man from Ulster county, New York, in 1830, followed later by his parents. The mother was a native of Berlin, Erie county, Ohio. Both the Washburns and the Van Benschotens were from colonial families and had many representatives in the war for independence and later were leaders in the formation of the republic. The latter were particularly active and were honored personal friends of General Washington.

Henry G. Washburn and wife were married in 1842 and settled in Greenwich township, where they continued residence through life. Here they reared their family of four children: Daniel S., Susanna M., Alice E. and Jay. Susanna died at the age of eighteen. Henry G. Washburn was a pushing, energetic man, who came to Ohio with a pittance and increased it to a competency, at the same time taking an intelligent interest in the life of the community. His business was farming but he also became widely known as a breeder of fine cattle and sheep. After a long and useful life, he passed away in September, 1886. Mrs. Washburn still survives, a kindly, vivacious lady who retains her faculties and, at the age eighty-six, goes about with the apparent vigor of middle life.

Daniel S. Washburn received somewhat more than the usual amount of education for his time, having attended the normal school at Milan, Ohio. Having been reared under the tutelage of a skillful and prosperous farmer, he decided to continue the work as a life occupation and has consistently followed it. After his marriage he and his wife located where they now reside, their life being passed without a single change. They have a splendid farm of four hundred acres, all in a high state of cultivation, and especially well tiled—a large drain



MR. AND MRS. HENRY G. WASHBURN

through the center and eight laterals—and with ample buildings. The house is one of the most complete farm homes in the county. Mr. Washburn is one of the directors of the First National Bank of Greenwich, Ohio.

Although a republican in politics and an interested participant in public matters, Mr. Washburn confines his attention to the needs of his own community, acting as township trustee and member of the board of education on occasion, and always being active in movements looking toward the advancement of his community in social and religious affairs. Being primarily a farmer, he has always taken an active interest in that which promised a bettering of the farmer's condition. For that reason he has been an influential worker in the Grange and is firm in his conviction that said organization has brought about improved conditions. He is a charter member of Ripleyville Grange, No. 707, the first organized in that township, and is now a member of North Fairfield Grange, No. 806, Patrons of Husbandry, which he and his wife joined on its organization. He has held all of the local offices and is a member and overseer of the county grange.

Daniel S. Washburn was married January 23, 1867, to Sarah Jane MacOmber, daughter of Egbert and Anna (Benedict) MacOmber. Her family came from Cayuga county, New York, in 1833, and were prominent in the development of this section. They, late in life, moved to Erie county, Ohio, where the father died in 1888, the mother surviving him some five years. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Washburn: Anna Maude, wife of Lacey W. Robinson, a farmer of Ripley township; Ernest Linton, who is married and is operating the old farm; Inez, wife of Warren O. Smith, a farmer of Richland county; Wayne, now in the far west; and Leo, who, with Wayne, was in partnership with his father on the farm. He is a graduate veterinary surgeon and for some time served as government meat inspector but resigned that position in the spring of 1909 and is now at home.

F. P. MITCHELL.

One of the prominent members of the farming community of Greenfield township is F. P. Mitchell, who owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and forty-two acres, on which he has made his home throughout life, his birth occurring here November 5, 1866. His father, Elias Mitchell, was born on the same farm December 30, 1839, and is still living, making his home in North Fairfield, Ohio. Our subject's paternal grandfather was William Mitchell, who was born January 1, 1799, and came to this state from Canandaigua, New York, in 1820, locating in Greenwich township, Huron county. Here in the midst of the unbroken forest he cleared land and laid out the town of Greenwich, where he and his brother lived for about six years. They bought land there which they later gave to their father, James Mitchell, the great-grandfather of our subject, who continued to make his home in Greenwich until called to his final rest. He was a son of James Mitchell, Sr. A soldier of the Revolutionary war, he took part in the battle of Trenton and died when his son James was but nine years of age. After seeing that his parents

were comfortably located in their new home in Greenwich, William Mitchell, our subject's grandfather, removed to Macksville, where he worked in the mill and distillery of Ezra Smith, being a miller by trade. He spent seven years in that locality and then came to Greenfield township, where he purchased a farm which at that time was covered with timber with the exception of two acres that had been cleared and a log house erected thereupon. He made that dwelling his home until a more substantial log house could be erected. He continued to reside upon this farm until 1860, devoting his time to clearing the land and cultivating the fields, and then returned to Macksville where he lived retired for some time. He died in Fairfield township in September, 1890, honored and respected by all who knew him. For several years he filled the office of township trustee and was a deacon of the Baptist church, both in Peru and Fairfield township, assisting in removing the church from the former township and donating the land upon which it was located.

His son, Elias Mitchell, the father of F. P. Mitchell, has lived in Greenfield and Fairfield townships all his life, carrying on agriculture. He was born on the home farm December 30, 1839, and received his education in the district schools. He became one of the prominent citizens of this locality, served for eighteen years as a trustee of Fairfield township, held several offices in Greenfield township and was one of the directors of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Huron county. He is at present living in North Fairfield, in comparative rest from toil. His wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Cornelia Place, was born October 26, 1842, in New York city, but was very young when she came here with her mother and her step-father, in 1855. Her own father had died in 1847, and her mother married James L. Coit, Sr. To Mr. and Mrs. Elias Mitchell, have been born three children: Grant, who died at the age of one; F. P., the subject of this sketch; and Bertha, who died at the age of twenty-six, leaving a husband, Robert Reeder, of North Fairfield, and three children: Ray, Dana, deceased, and Nelson.

F. P. Mitchell has always lived on his present farm, and in his youth, he attended the district schools, from which he gleaned such an education as they were able to impart during the few months they were in session and to lads who were compelled to give their first thought to the farm and its work. However, they would seem to have afforded a good training for life, for Mr. Mitchell has been very successful in the farming he has practiced and in the live stock business, he has carried on. He is also interested in the wool market. He has had other interests outside his farm, perhaps the principal one being in the schools. For a period of fifteen years, he served as a member of the board of education, is at present president of that body, and has held other offices within the gift of the people of his township. He is the secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, a stockholder and one of the directors of the North Fairfield Savings Bank and of the North Fairfield Telephone Company, of which latter concern he is also treasurer.

On the 21st of November, 1888, Mr. Mitchell wedded Miss Catherine Ryerson, a daughter of George M. and Catherine (Edsel) Ryerson, of Peru township. Mrs. Mitchell was born there, whither her parents had come from New York state in the early days. She was one of a family of nine children, the others being: Sarah, the wife of Charles H. Burg, of Patterson, New Jersey; Price V. and Edsel, of North Fairfield, Ohio; Esther, the wife of Adelbert S. Roe, of Peru township;

George E., of Fairfield township; Catherine, the wife of our subject; Delno P., of Norwalk, Ohio; Dora, the widow of F. M. Mitchell, and a resident of Columbus, Ohio; and Grace, the wife of Henry T. Graham, of Fairfield township. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have had three children: Donald, born January 2, 1894; C. Philip, born October 2, 1896; and Cornelia, born January 27, 1900.

By hard and diligent labor, Mr. Mitchell has won success in his business operations, and because of the strong qualities of his character, he has won the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens. He is one of the men who make for the prosperity and stability of Greenfield township.

WARREN SEVERANCE.

A man versed in the laws of the country, as distinguished from the business man or politician, has been a recognized power for many years. He is depended upon to conserve the best and permanent interests of the whole people, and without him and his practical judgment, the efforts of the statesman and the industry of the business man and mechanic would prove futile. The reason is not far to seek, for the professional lawyer is never a creature of circumstances. The profession is open to talent, and no definite prestige or success can be attained save by indomitable energy, perseverance, patience and strong mentality. One of the leading representatives of the bar of Huron county is Warren Severance, of Chicago, Ohio, who is a man of long and varied experience and deep learning. He was born in Sandusky county, Ohio, October 9, 1836, being a son of Elisha and Phebe B. (Tracy) Severance.

Elisha Severance was born in Shelburn, Massachusetts, while his wife was born in Bridgewater, Vermont. He came to Ohio in 1819, locating at Milan, Erie county, where he lived for a number of years, later removing to Sandusky county, Ohio, and thence to Huron county, where he died October 13th, 1892. He first worked at his trade of coopering exclusively, but later, he began farming in the summer, confining his work at his trade to the winter. His first wife was Martha Bangs, a daughter of Captain Bangs, who commanded a lake boat. She bore him one son, that lived to maturity, Samuel M. The second wife was Phebe B. Tracy and by this marriage, there were the following children: William M., Warren, Byron, and one son that died in infancy.

Warren Severance attended the Maxville school in Peru township, Samuel F. Newman being one of his teachers. When he was twenty years old, he left school and like so many young men of his days who cherished ambitions, he began teaching. For nine years he continued as an educator in the schools of Huron county, but never relinquished his determination to enter the legal profession, and in 1876 he was able to begin his law studies. In 1878, he was admitted to the bar and immediately thereafter located in Chicago, Ohio, which has been his home ever since, having firmly established himself in the confidence of the people. On March 16, 1896, Mr. Severance was admitted to the supreme court in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Severance was married February 9, 1860, to Philinda Shepard, a daughter of Israel and Nancy (Brown) Shepard, who were the parents of the following named children: Hannah, who married D. B. Kroh; Mary, deceased, who married James McDuell; Israel, also deceased; Mrs. Severance; Lucinda, who married J. Z. Woodworth; and Eva, who married W. B. Keefer. Mr. and Mrs. Severance became the parents of two children: E. W.; and Clara M., who is the widow of C. A. Weatherford. Mr. Severance mourns the loss of his wife, who passed away May 10, 1904.

He has been very prominent fraternally, and belongs to Chicago Lodge No. 748, I. O. O. F., at Chicago, Ohio. He is local counsel for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, having held this position since 1891. While a republican, Mr. Severance has not sought public office. A consistent member of the Presbyterian church, he is much interested in its good work, and has been one of its elders since the establishment of the church in Chicago, also acting as one of the church trustees. For many years, he has practiced in all of the courts and has been connected with much of the legal business of his locality, his sound and ripe judgment, conservative views and thorough knowledge of his profession making him one of the best attorneys Huron county has ever possessed.

R. M. CHERRY.

One of the prosperous young farmers of Greenfield township is R. M. Cherry, who owns the one hundred and forty-five acres of land on which he makes his home. He was born in this township, September 29, 1873, and is a son of Eugene and Augusta (Turney) Cherry. The paternal grandfather, Reuben Cherry, was one of the old settlers of this county. He was reared and married in New York state, but in 1823 came to Ohio alone, settling at Hanvil's Corners, Fairfield township. After working here for a time, he returned home to get his wife, coming back to this state which he made his home until 1857, when typhoid fever caused his death. His widow, who before her marriage was Miss Brilla Snow, lived to be eighty-eight, and until 1893, the year of her death, made her home with her son Eugene, the youngest of her family of nine. Among the others were Eunice, who married M. Taylor, both now deceased; Eudolphia, the deceased wife of T. F. Hildreth; and Lucinda, the widow of Philander Mitchell.

Eugene Cherry, the father of R. M. Cherry, has spent all his life in this county. He was born March 20, 1846, in Fairfield township, and began his education in the old log school house there. He was not privileged however, to receive much of an education, for his father's early death compelled him to give all his time to the management of the farm. To the cultivation of the soil he devoted himself assiduously until 1905, when he removed to Norwalk to live in retirement and enjoy the fruits of his labor. His wife was born in Connecticut, but came at the age of thirteen to this state to live with an aunt. Later, Mrs. Cherry returned to her native home for a while as her father, Cyrus Turney, never became a resident of Ohio. Her mother had died when she was but a young girl. To Mr. and Mrs. Cherry were born three children: Jessie, at home; R. M., of this review;

and Floyd, who married Miss Rose Sisinger and lives in Arizona, the father of one child, Carlton E.

R. M. Cherry has always lived in this locality, and has worked on the farm from his boyhood. He attended the district school of the township, but could never be said to have received an education for when his father's health failed, as the result of a sunstroke, he was compelled to give up his lessons and devote himself, mind and body, to the conduct of the farm. The hard work he has put into the field tell; his crops are bountiful; and the condition of the buildings shows that their owner is thrifty and a good manager. He has found by experience that his soil is best adapted to general farming and the progressive methods he employs bid fair to make him one of the most prosperous men of his township in a few years.

On the 19th of April, 1905, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cherry and Miss May Hartman, the daughter of William and Alice (Crebs) Hartman, of New London, Ohio. Mr. Hartman was born in Ashland county, Ohio, July 14, 1851, and his wife in Huntington county, Indiana, July 25, 1854. Both are still living. They had a family of five children: Ira; Charles; Nina, deceased; May and Sylvia.

Mr. Cherry is a member of the Methodist church of North Fairfield, is in regular attendance at its services and contributes generously to its support. He is a member of the younger generation of farmers, to whom the township will look for her future prosperity and advancement, and her best expectations will not be disappointed, if we are to judge by the past years of Mr. Cherry's life.

WILLIAM ERF.

William Erf, devoting his time and energies to farming and dairy pursuits in Lyme township, is meeting with a substantial measure of success which entitle him to rank among the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of his township. He was born in Peru township, Huron county, May 7, 1857, a son of Philip and Dorothea (Heymen) Erf, both natives of Germany. The father was born in Freien Dietz in 1821, where he was reared to the age of twenty years. Rumors had come to him concerning the superior opportunities for advancement offered in the new world and he decided to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic. Consequently, he sailed for the United States and made his way direct to Huron county, Ohio, settling in Peru township, where he worked by the month for several years. When, by hard labor and careful saving, he had accumulated sufficient money, he purchased a few acres of land in that township and directed his energies toward cultivating and expanding this property. As he prospered, he added to his holdings until at the time of his death, he had become the owner of two hundred and fifty acres in the home farm and about two hundred and fifty acres in other parts of the county. He was well known and esteemed in the community in which he lived and served for several years as trustee of Huron county. His death occurred in 1894, but his wife still survives him at the age of seventy years. In their family were four children: William, of this review; Lydia, the deceased

wife of A. P. Horn; Lewis; and Oscar, the professor of agriculture at the Ohio State University at Columbus.

William Erf has always made his home in Huron county, residing in Peru township until twenty-six years of age, while in the meantime, he attended the district schools of that township and also studied for a short time at Monroeville, Ridgefield township. Having been reared to agricultural pursuits, he wisely chose this as his life work and is now numbered among the prosperous and representative farmers of his county. The year 1883 witnessed his arrival in Lyme township, where he purchased his present farm of one hundred and fifty-three acres from his father in 1893. He has made many improvements upon the place, erecting a fine large residence and commodious and substantial barns and out-buildings. Aside from his farming interests, he is also proprietor of the Chestnut Ridge Dairy and this branch of his business is proving an important factor in his present success. He is president and director of the Star Creamery Company of Monroeville and is also a director of the Hess Hardware Company of that place. His business is conducted with keen discernment and is most carefully managed, so that he receives therefrom most gratifying returns.

Mr. Erf was united in marriage March 8, 1883, to Miss Minnie A. Scheld, a daughter of Philip and Wilhelmina Scheld, natives of Germany. Her birth occurred in Peru township and she was the fifth in a family of six children, the others being: Bertha, Lewis, August, Amelia and Lydia. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Erf has been blessed with four children: Norma, Cora, Elzy and W. P., all at home.

Mr. Erf is a member of the Evangelical church and his life at all times has been in keeping with its teachings. He has served as a member of the school board for some time and is at present clerk of the board, while at all times he is deeply and helpfully interested in all matters pertaining to the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Erf are among the most highly respected and prosperous citizens in the community.

F. WILLIAM BISHOP.

F. William Bishop, who carries on general farming in Peru township, is one of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of the community. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of rich farm land, and it was upon this place that he was born May 26, 1859. His parents were Arsineus and Tracy (Schaefer) Bishop. The father was born in Baden, Germany, and when a young man came to the United States, settling in Huron, Ohio, where he worked at the shoemaker's trade, which he had learned in Germany. He lived there until about 1845, when he bought the farm upon which our subject now makes his home. The improvements upon the place were of a very primitive character, consisting of a log house and log barn, and the land was nearly all covered with timber. With resolute spirit, such as was shown by the pioneers who faced the hardships and privations of frontier life, Mr. Bishop began clearing the place, cutting away the trees, grubbing up the stumps and clearing away



MR. AND MRS. F. WILLIAM BISHOP

the brush until he transformed the land into productive fields. From time to time he made substantial improvements and his property became one of the excellent farms of the locality. At all times he was progressive in his citizenship and cooperated in many movements for the general good. He died in 1884 at the age of seventy-two years and the community mourned the loss of one of its highly respected and worthy citizens. His wife in her girlhood days had come to Huron county with her parents, F. W. and Elizabeth Schaefer, and had settled at Monroeville about 1840. Subsequently they removed to Seneca county. Mrs. Bishop died in 1902 at the age of seventy-four years. By her marriage she has become the mother of six children: Frank J., now deceased; Elizabeth C., a resident of Crawford county, Ohio; F. William; J. R., who is also living in Crawford county; Maggie, deceased; and Alfred P., likewise a resident of Crawford county. The father had been married twice and by his former marriage had two children: Joseph, who died in the army; and Thomas, who is living in Fairfield township.

F. William Bishop spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farm lads of the period and locality. He remained on the home place until twenty-six years of age and was then married, after which he removed to Auburn, Indiana, being employed in the shops at that place. He also worked along industrial lines at Garrett, Indiana, securing a situation in the railroad shops at that point, and later he went to Fostoria, Ohio, where he was employed in the glass works. Subsequently he removed to Tiffin, Ohio, and worked in the Stove foundry for about eleven years. During that period his wife died and he returned to Huron county to take care of the farm and of his mother, remaining with her until her demise.

Mr. Bishop had wedded Miss Helen Hipp, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Koppler) Hipp, of Seneca county, Ohio. The marriage was celebrated April 29, 1884, and they became the parents of four children: Fred V., Martin J., Isabelle F. and Linus D. Mrs. Bishop, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, in June, 1858, died in Tiffin, Ohio, September 27, 1899, her remains being interred in St. Joseph cemetery at that place. Mr. Bishop is now living alone with his two sons and carries on general farming, working diligently and persistently to secure the success which is the merited reward of all honorable labor. He belongs to the Catholic church of Peru township, and is well known as a representative citizen of the community.

ROBERT H. AND BUSHNELL R. REYNOLDS, M. D.

Two of the highly esteemed physicians of Greenwich township are Drs. Robert H. and Bushnell R. Reynolds, father and son. Not only are they able practitioners, but they are also public-spirited men, who have contributed their share to the advancement and progress of the community. Robert H. Reynolds was born April 25, 1846, in Greenwich township, in a house constructed for the greater part of walnut timber, that is still used for a dwelling, though it has been moved

to the village. He is the son of Dr. Henry and Harriet (Marble) Reynolds, both of whom were born and reared in the state of New York, the latter in Oswego county. Dr. Henry Reynolds was married in Cooperstown, New York. In 1839, he went to Tennessee, where he remained a year, and then came to Huron county, Ohio, taking up the practice of his profession, for which he had prepared himself before leaving the state of his nativity. He was the father of nine children: Angeline, Russell N., Esther, Lavilla, Hannah, William B., Harriet E., Cornelia A. and Robert H., all of whom with the exception of Harriet E., who died in infancy, grew to maturity before he was called to his last resting place, at the age of seventy-eight. His wife had died six years before, in May, 1874, and but three of the large family now survives, Russell N., of Chicago Junction; Cornelia, the widow of Julius H. Hulburt, of Plymouth, Huron county; and Dr. Robert H. Dr. Henry Reynolds was a man interested and active in public affairs. He was a republican in politics, was an ordained elder in the Methodist Episcopal church, and in the course of his long and busy life, was widely known and highly respected.

Robert H. Reynolds was educated in the public schools of Greenwich township, later attending the Maumee City Academy. He received his medical training in the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, from which he was graduated in 1872, and he entered upon the practice of his profession almost immediately, coming to Greenwich township, which has been the scene of his labors continuously since, save for the year 1883, spent in Taylor county, Texas. He went there with the intention of establishing himself in profession, but the climatic conditions were so unfavorable, that he was compelled to return to Ohio. While his duties as a physician have kept Dr. Reynolds very busy, he has taken an active interest in public affairs and has found some time to give to the service of the public. At three distinct times, he acted as coroner for the county, was twelve years justice of the peace, and for the space of four years, was a member of the school board, of which he was president for a time. In politics, he is an ardent republican, and in 1900 was given the nomination for state senator from Huron, Erie, Ottawa and Sandusky counties. This is a strong democratic locality, but Dr. Reynolds reduced the majority of his opponent to something less than two hundred, which is a slight evidence of his strength before the people.

On the 8th of July, 1873, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Reynolds to Miss Helen M. Washburn, the daughter of Charles A. and Mary E. (Griffin) Washburn. The families of both parents came to Ohio from New York, and the father had the distinction of having been the second white child born in Greenwich township. The mother, however, was seventeen years of age when her parents came here, and for two years before her marriage taught in the schools of the township. Both parents have now been dead for a number of years, but in the days of his activity, Mr. Washburn was a successful farmer and stock raiser. Dr. and Mrs. Reynolds have been blessed with a family of five children: James C., who died in infancy; Bushnell R., a practicing physician of Greenwich; Rhena H., deceased; Glide A., a student at the Ohio State University; and D. Chauncey, still in school and living at home.

Dr. Reynolds belongs to several fraternal organizations, and others that are connected with his profession. He is a member of Greenwich Lodge, F. & A.

M.; a charter member of the O. K. Lodge, Knights of Pythias; Greenwich Lodge, No. 640, I. O. O. F.; and with his wife belongs to the Eastern Star and the Daughters of Rebekah. In all of these societies he takes an active interest, and has frequently represented the different lodges at the grand meetings of organizations. He belongs to the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association; is president of the special board of pension examiners located at Chicago Junction. He is very active also on the county pension board, which aims to take care of the needy blind. In the councils of the republican party, he has played some part, having been a member of the republican county central committee and frequently a delegate to district county and state conventions. In matters of religion, he and his wife give their support to the Methodist Episcopal church, in whose work they are both sincerely interested. In short, Dr. Reynolds is a man of great public spirit, who favors public improvements, such as contribute to the credit and material progress and comfort of the community, and has not been averse to doing his share toward bringing these things to pass.

Bushnell Ray Reynolds, the son of Dr. Robert H. Reynolds, was born December 1, 1875, in Greenwich village. He was graduated from the Greenwich high school in 1894 and from there went to the Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, remaining there two years. He then went to the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati and was graduated from that institution with the class of 1899, entering the same year upon the practice of his profession in Greenwich. In the ten years that he has ministered to the physical wants of the people here, he has attained for himself a notable success and a high reputation; for not only is he endowed with the qualities of an able practitioner, but he also makes every effort to keep abreast of the advances made in his profession. He is a constant student by predilection, and in the winter of 1907-8, took a postgraduate course in the school from which he received training. Like his father, he is a republican and interested in public matters, though he has never sought an office at the disposal of the people.

On the 28th of October, 1900, Dr. B. R. Reynolds married Miss Elleva F. Stewart, a daughter of Francis W. and Phoebe (Mann) Stewart, of Fairfield township. Her father was of Scotch descent, her grandfather, Daniel Stewart, having come from Scotland with his parents at the age of eight years. The latter became famous as a lake captain and followed the lakes for a long period of years. He was a man of singularly powerful frame and robust constitution and was ninety-six years of age when he died, on the 6th of March, 1908. Francis W. Stewart was a farmer of Huron county and was well and widely known. He died December 29, 1898, and his wife two years later, dying on the 14th of October, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart had two daughters: Julia R., the wife of J. W. Muckley, a traveling salesman, who resides in the state of Washington; and Elleva F., the wife of Dr. Reynolds. Mrs. Reynolds was for years one of the popular teachers of the Greenwich schools and still retains her interest in the subject of public education. She has the distinction of having received her county certificate at the age of fifteen and of having entered upon her vocation before she became sixteen. She is a woman of refinement and intellectual attainments, and under her leadership the Reynolds home has become a factor in the social and literary life of the village.

Dr. Bushnell R. Reynolds, like his father, belongs to several organizations. He is a member of the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association, and the Greenwich Lodge, No. 640, I. O. O. F., and the O. K. Lodge, K. P., of Greenwich include him in their membership roll. He also belongs to the Uniform Rank of Knights of Pythias, of Shelby, Ohio and with his wife is a member of the Daughters of Rebekah. Another means of recreation in which Dr. Reynolds indulges, are fine horses and a day's hunting or fishing. He is a man of progressive spirit, deeply interested in the welfare of the community in which he lives, and is one who views matters from an optimistic standpoint, and the good will of the people toward him promises well for his future success.

CHARLES W. MANAHAN.

Few attain the ripe old age of Charles W. Manahan, who has now passed the ninety-sixth milestone on the journey of life. His former years of industry and activity have supplied him with a handsome competence, so that now in the evening of life, he can enjoy all the comforts to be obtained, while at the same time he commands the full respect and veneration of one of his years. Born in the Empire state, May 16, 1813, his parents were Thomas and Violetta (Silcox) Manahan, the former a native of New Jersey, and the latter of New York.

Charles W. Manahan, when but twenty years of age, came to Ohio in the spring of 1833, this being then a frontier district. He addressed himself to the tasks which western life presented and with steadiness and courage met the problems which confronted him. He first engaged in carpentering, but after a short time gave his attention to the manufacture of wagons and carriages on his own account, when all such labor was then performed by hand. After about three years thus engaged, he sold out, taking wagons as payment, and these he traded for horses, which he took to his native county, Cayuga county, New York, where he disposed of them for cash. He then returned to the Buckeye state and discharged his indebtedness on farm land which he had contracted for and also made additional purchases, buying in all one hundred acres. While serving his apprenticeship at Auburn, New York, he assisted in making the first threshing machine ever made in the United States, and later he and his brother constructed three machines in Norwalk, two of which they sold, but abandoned the work on account of the labor required in its perfection.

It was in 1849, that Mr. Manahan established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Delana Wheeler, who was born in Massachusetts. Bringing his bride to Huron county, they began their domestic life in true pioneer style in a log shanty on his father's farm, his own newly acquired farm having as yet no buildings thereon. His wife, though born of wealthy parents and leaving a comfortable home in the east, proved herself a worthy helpmate to her husband and at once submitted to the privations necessary to assist him in establishing a good home on the frontier. Having previously worked for a year and a half at the carpenter's trade, he found this knowledge of the trade of material value in building his own home, performing all the work from digging the cellar to plaster-

ing and painting the house. After about three years, he disposed of his one hundred acre tract and purchased an improved farm. For three years, he there engaged in general agricultural pursuits and then, believing money could be made in the sheep industry, he began buying of his neighbors, selecting only the largest and best grades of animals, and in the fall of 1849, he had a flock of two hundred head, which he fed during the winter. In the following spring—1850—he shipped his sheep to New York city, where he disposed of them for eight hundred dollars and with this capital, he purchased a stock of goods and opened a general store in Olena. For twelve years, he was thus engaged, building up an extensive business in Olena and the surrounding country. He took in payment for his merchandise, butter, eggs, wool and various commodities, which he shipped to the city markets, where he secured cash for them. In the meantime he bought wool for a Boston manufacturer, his annual purchases amounting to between forty and fifty thousand pounds. He also built an ashery on his farm. He secured a team and a man, who visited the farmers and bought their ashes, trading for the same goods from the store. Mr. Manahan then converted the ashes into potash, which he shipped to the New York market. He also bought colts for from thirty to thirty-five dollars each and, putting them on his farm, kept them until they were about three years old, when he would sell them at a good profit and use the money to buy more land. In this way, he accumulated two hundred and thirty-three acres in one body, which cost him at an average of twenty dollars per acre and which he disposed of in 1865 at fifty dollars per acre. It was by these various methods that Mr. Manahan gained a good start in life and his success continued throughout his active connection with business interests.

It was while busily engaged with his mercantile enterprise that Mr. Manahan was appointed by the government as inspector of horses, with which to equip the First Ohio Cavalry, their headquarters being at Monroeville. During his four year's service, he bought and shipped more than one thousand head. At the expiration of that period, he turned his attention to buying and improving city property. His first purchase consisted of ten acres on West Main street in Norwalk, for which he paid two thousand dollars, while he spent an additional five hundred dollars in improving the same. He eventually disposed of a portion of this—the portion which had a frontage on Main street—for seven thousand, five hundred dollars. Two years later, he sold one lot to Mr. Jackson, of Norwalk. In the meantime, Mr. Manahan took teams and went into the woods, digging up maple trees, which he transplanted in the streets of Norwalk, this being now one of the most beautiful residence district of the city. He also planted evergreen trees and other shrubbery on a lot, which he contemplated making a building spot for his own home, but later abandoned the idea and disposed of the lot to W. W. Graham, which is his present place of abode.

Eventually Mr. Manahan again engaged in business in Norwalk, becoming a member of the firm which conducted business under the name of Parker, Manahan & Taber. His time was thus occupied for twelve years, when being then a man of seventy, Mr. Manahan decided to dispose of his interests and retire to private life. However, he could not content himself in idleness and purchased a tract of land in Norwalk, opened up a street, now known as Manahan avenue, and here he built eight houses and beautified the street by planting trees on each

side of the highway, which he himself had dug in the woods. He further improved his property by putting in gas and water, independent of the city system. He still owns this residence property, deriving therefrom a good rental. He likewise carries four thousand dollars in stock in the Chase piano factory, having been a director in the A. B. Chase Company for thirty-five years.

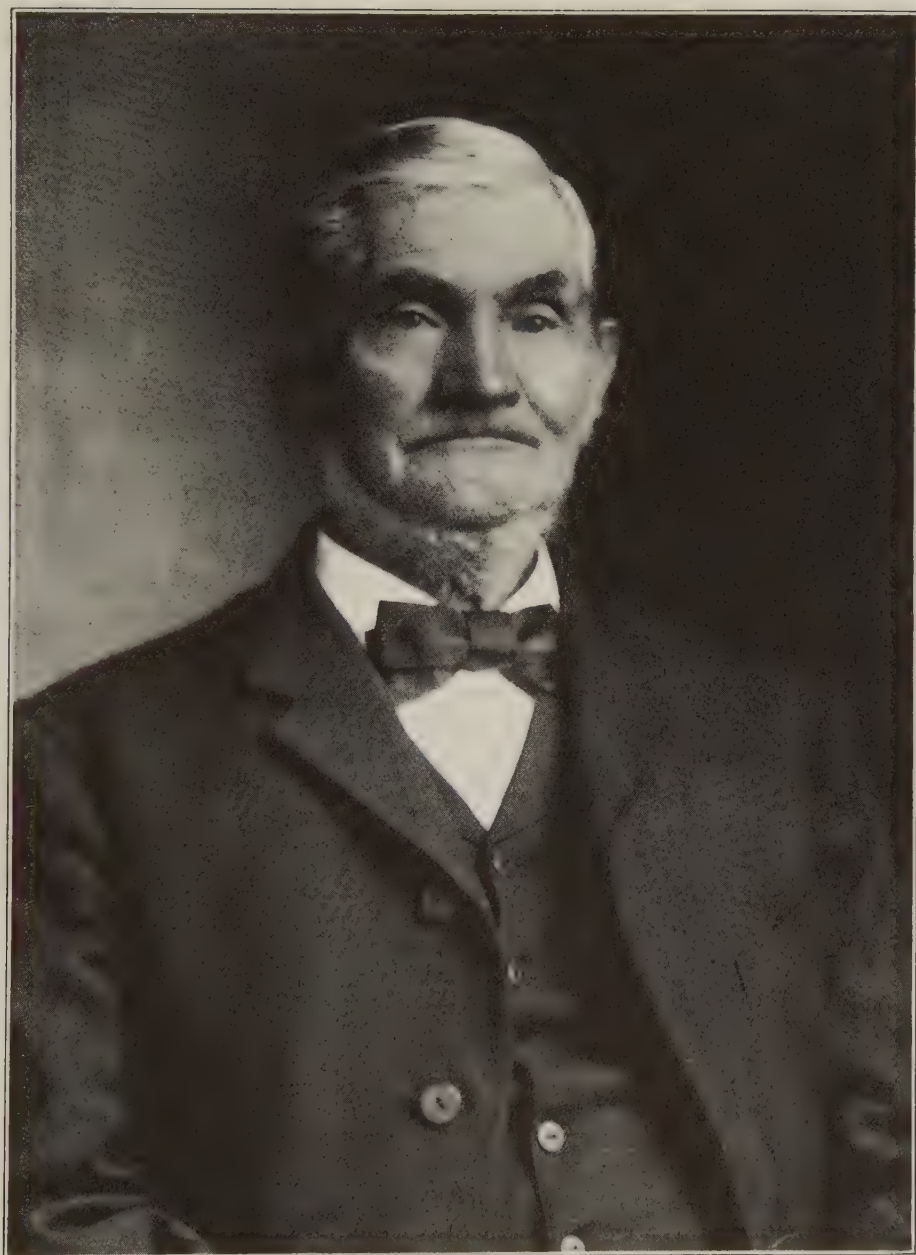
Although he is now more than ninety-six years of age, he is still hale and hearty and manages his own business affairs, takes care of his garden, attends to all repairs made in his houses, and makes frequent trips on foot to the cemetery, a mile and a quarter distant, where his wife and two sons lie buried. In his family were three children, but Charles W., Jr., and William Kendall are both deceased. His daughter, Mrs. David W. Peckham, is now a widow and resides with him. A republican in politics, he still takes a deep interest in public affairs, and from 1862 until 1866, he served as treasurer of Huron county. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church. He is also a member of the Firelands Historic Society.

Mr. Manahan arrived in Huron county during its pioneer epoch and when he located here in 1833, he purchased fifty acres of land within six miles of where the enterprising and progressive city of Norwalk now stands for three dollars per acre, while his father, Thomas Manahan, bought two hundred acres in the same district at the same figure. Although he could not see in advance the full importance of the work which he was accomplishing, the result is today seen in the various sections of Norwalk which have been improved and beautified by his own hand, while the income which he now derives from his invested interests, supplies him with every needed comfort. Although he is now necessarily on the declining side of life, he bears his years well and no man in Norwalk and Huron county is held in higher esteem and regard than is Charles W. Manahan.

EDWARD DENMAN.

There is within the borders of Huron county hardly a man who has remained here as long as Mr. Denman, who for eighty-nine years has resided in this portion of the state. He has lived to see the pioneer log cabins replaced by commodious and substantial homes, the forests converted into rich fields, the wild animals supplanted by high grades of live stock, while churches, schools, libraries and other evidences of intellectual and moral culture are found on every hand.

Edward Denman was born September 4, 1820, in Huron county, his parents being John and Miranda (Blackman) Denman. The father, a native of England, was born in the county of Kent, March 25, 1791, and when six years of age came to America with his parents, the family home being established in Sullivan county, New York. He came to Ohio in 1816 as a young man with nothing but his ax as his capital. He possessed firm and determined purpose, however,—qualities which enabled him to overcome the difficulties and obstacles of business life—and he met with undaunted courage the hardships and privations that come to those who locate on the frontier. The Blackman family had been



EDWARD DENMAN

established in Ohio four years before. Traveling westward by wagon, they had settled in the midst of the green forest, where they had to clear a spot large enough on which to build a cabin. Thus they began life in the west, facing all the difficulties and dangers of pioneer life. John Denman used his ax to good advantage, cutting away the forest trees and working for different pioneers in the locality until he gradually accumulated enough money to enable him to enter a claim from the government. After a few years he married Miranda Blackman, who was a native of Niagara county, New York. They became the parents of nine sons and five daughters, Edward, William, John, Henry, Charles, Roxanna, Ann, Laura, Miranda, Mary P., Amos, Ambrose B. C., Martin and Leverett B. Of these seven are yet living, Edward, Henry, Martin, Leverett B., Amos, Laura and Mary. Edward is the only one who has retained his residence in this state. The father prospered in his undertaking as the years passed by and became a large landowner, his farms comprising about seven hundred acres. He was very active in the development of the county, contributing in substantial measure to its growth and improvement and he was, moreover, a positive and leading spirit in matters pertaining to the public welfare. To his family he gave the best advantages that frontier life afforded and made liberal provision for his children. He was also a charitable man along the lines of practical giving to the worthy poor. He died at his home in Florence, Erie county, Ohio, March 23, 1878, and his wife passed away March 24, 1887, the remains of both being interred in the Birmingham cemetery.

Edward Denman, whose name introduces this record, remained with his father upon the home farm until twenty-two years of age, and profited by such educational advantages as were at that time afforded in the neighborhood. The district school convened in a little log building for a few weeks each year and during that period Mr. Denman was instructed in the common branches of learning. At the age of thirteen years he was capable of driving a two yoke ox-team in the logging camp and as his capacity for farm work increased it lessened his opportunity of attending school, his last term being when he was seventeen years of age.

At the age of twenty-two he left the old home farm and began earning his living in the employ of others at thirty-seven and a half cents per day, or ten dollars per month. At the end of two years he determined to engage in business for himself and rented a farm from his father on a cash basis. That year he harvested an immense hay crop, all cut in stumpy meadows with sickles and scythes, but he found that there was no market for the hay after he had had it stacked. He consequently bought several hundred sheep on credit—for he had little capital—that he might feed to them this hay through the winter, and by diligence, perseverance and hard work he met success in this undertaking and prospered from the start. The idea of paying rent, however, annoyed him and he determined to purchase a farm. Carrying out this resolution, he bought one hundred acres of timber land and contracted with some young men to clear thirty acres of this to be ready for fall wheat sowing. This was accomplished and from the thirty acres he threshed over six hundred bushels of wheat the following summer. The product was sold at a good price and with his wool clips and his increase in flocks he began to see success ahead. The second year

another thirty acres was cleared and put under cultivation and very soon more land was purchased and his acres broadened and his wealth increased. Those were the days in which ox-teams were exclusively used and part of a teamster's equipment was always an ax with which to cut away obstructions that might block the rude roads through the forests. Many discouragements beset the way of the early settler but Mr. Denman possessed a courageous spirit and firm purpose and, undaunted by the hardships and obstacles which he met, he persevered on his way until success attended his labors.

When he had secured a farm of his own he felt that he was justified in taking another important step in life and was married on the 13th of October, 1847, to Miss Jane Archer, a daughter of Joseph and Adeline (Kelley) Archer, both of whom were natives of New York city. In 1837 they arrived in Florence, in what was then Huron county, where the father engaged in farming, but he only lived a short time after coming to Ohio. His wife lived to the age of eighty years. Mr. and Mrs. Denman became the parents of six children: Joseph A., Adeline, John E., Jennie A., Annabelle and Louise, all living with the exception of the last named. The mother, who was devoted to the welfare of her household and possessed many excellent traits of heart and mind, passed away June 15, 1895.

The farm which Mr. Denman originally purchased was located on what is known as Butler road in Wakeman township. It was to that place that he brought his bride and they began housekeeping in a log cabin which he had already prepared. The dwelling, however, was rather pretentious for those times, with its plastered walls, good board floors, brick chimneys and a second story which was divided into bedrooms. The young couple started out happily and as the years passed Mr. Denman labored earnestly and perseveringly, adding to his acres from time to time. He engaged successfully in general farming and took up sheepraising on an extensive scale, at times having a clip of wool that brought him as high as eighteen hundred dollars. His sheep were of the Delaine variety and of pure breed, some of his animals selling for high prices. He also bred and raised fine thoroughbred horses, which sold for a high figure, and was likewise a successful fruit grower, his orchards producing fine specimens of fruit that brought top prices on the market. On his farm the work of improvement was steadily carried on until it was all under a high state of cultivation and was probably the best improved property in the locality, his fields being most extensive and equal, if not superior, to all others in the quality of crops raised. In the fall of 1903 advancing age decided Mr. Denman to leave the farm and remove to a desirable location near the village of Wakeman, where he has erected a comfortable modern home and all conveniences and there he and his daughter Jennie reside, enjoying the comforts which a well spent and prosperous business life provides them.

While always a busy man, Mr. Denman has yet found time to participate in public matters and though not an office seeker, he has been interested in the election of good men—those who will serve efficiently and well the interests of the community at large. In national and state politics he supports the republican party but at local elections he has voted for the men whom he regards best qualified for the office, without considering their party affiliations. He and his family have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years

and his entire life has been upright and honorable, in consistent harmony with his profession. He is a man of humane spirit, charitable, kindly and reliable, his many sterling traits of character winning for him the trust and honor of his fellowmen and enabling him also to wield a wide and beneficial influence in the community. Few men now living have a clear conception of what this county was seventy-five years ago nor of the self-denial, industry and undaunted diligence which was required to bring it to his present high standard of excellence and progressive development. Mr. Denman, however, has been familiar with the history of the county for eighty-nine years and relates in an interesting manner many of the incidents which shaped its history during its formative period.

GREGORY JENNINGS.

On the roll of Huron county's honored dead appears the name of Gregory Jennings, a man who in his life displayed many sterling traits of character and won many warm friendships. He was among the worthy citizens that New England furnished to Ohio, his birth having occurred in Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1832. His parents were Walter and Rhoda Jennings, who had a family of five children, namely: Gregory, Mary, Sarah, Ezra and Nelson. In 1835, when their son Gregory was a little lad of three years, they left their New England home and in the primitive methods of travel at that period made their way to Huron county, Ohio. Comparatively few settlements had been made within the borders of the county at that time and where are now seen richly cultivated fields at that time uncut forest stood, furnishing shelter for wild game and various kinds of wild animals. There were also seen evidences of Indian occupancy here although the red men had gone to hunting grounds farther west. With the work of development and improvement the Jennings family became closely associated as the years went by and Gregory Jennings, who was reared amid the wild scenes and environments of the frontier, shared with the family in all the hardships of pioneer life and also aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm.

It was in the year 1860, that Gregory Jennings was united in marriage to Miss Amanda E. Keeler, who was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1839, her parents being Burr and Mary (Nash) Keeler. Her grandfather was Jonah Keeler and her great-grandfather, Matthew Keeler. Jonah Keeler was united in marriage to Rebecca Raymond and their children were: Burr, George, Raymond, Smith, Rufus, William, Charles, Zalmon and David. Of this family, Burr Keeler, the father of Mrs. Jennings, spent his youthful days in the Charter Oak state and having arrived at years of maturity, he wedded Mary Nash, a daughter of George and Esther Nash and a sister of Henry and Maria Nash. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burr Keeler were born nine children: Rebecca, Amanda, Mary, Burr, George, Sylvester, Harriett, Louise and Julia. The Keeler family remained in Connecticut until 1857, when they came to Ohio and were associated with the early development of the county.

Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Jennings took up their abode upon the farm in Huron county and throughout his remaining days, Mr. Jennings diligently

tilled the soil in the production of crops which proved a generous reward for his labor. In all of his business dealings, he was reliable as well as enterprising and thus made for himself an untarnished name. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and his religious faith was that of the Congregational church. He was ever loyal in the cause which he espoused and in community affairs manifested a public-spirited citizenship that made his cooperation much sought. He passed away in 1893, leaving to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name as well as a valuable farming property. Mrs. Jennings is also a member of the Congregational church and her life has been guided by its teachings. She is well known in Fairfield township and the hospitality of its best homes is freely accorded her.

MRS. REBECCA PARK.

Mrs. Rebecca Park, well known in Huron county, is the owner of a valuable farm property of two hundred and eighty-nine acres in Bronson township. She is the widow of Robert Park and was born in County Donegal, Ireland, near Londonderry, on the 11th of April, 1838. She has, therefore, passed the seventy-first milestone on life's journey. Her parents were James and Martha (Calhoun) Park, both of whom were natives of Ireland and came to this country in 1847, settling at Savannah, Ashland county, where James Park followed the occupation of farming. The Parks were reared in Protestant Ireland and James Park was the son of Joseph and Rebecca (Torrence) Park, while his wife, Mrs. Martha Park, was a daughter of William and Ellen Calhoun.

Mrs. Rebecca Park spent her girlhood days in her parents' home and was trained to the work of the household so that she was capable of managing a home of her own at the time of her marriage, on the 2d of March, 1859, to Robert Park, who died March 27, 1896. He was born November 26, 1829, and was a son of Joseph and Sarah (McAddo) Park, who were also natives of Ireland and on coming to the new world in 1847, located in Bronson township, Huron county, Ohio. Joseph Park was a son of Joseph and Rebecca (Torrence) Park. Two children were born unto Robert and Rebecca Park. Carrie, whose birth occurred in 1860, is the wife of William Hall and resides in Huntington, West Virginia. They have two children: Percy and Park. Milton Park, born in 1863, is now a practicing physician located in Cleveland. He married Mrs. Catherine (Smead) Henry.

From the time of his marriage until his death, Robert Park followed the occupation of farming and to the work of the fields devoted his energies with good success. He held membership in the Presbyterian church, in which he was an elder for many years. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, but though he never sought nor desired office, he was always loyal to the best interests of the community in which he lived and was a public spirited and valued citizen. His life in all of its relations was honorable and upright and his example may well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others. Mrs. Park is also a member of the Presbyterian church and a most earnest and con-

sistent Christian woman. She has now lived on her present farm for twenty-three years and the place contains two hundred and eighty-nine acres of rich and valuable land which has been brought under a high state of cultivation and displays all of the equipments and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century.

CHARLES ZEHNER.

Charles Zehner, as vice-president and treasurer of the Zehner Brothers Packing Company of Bellevue and Toledo, is manifesting in his business career the keen discernment and undaunted enterprise which result in the successful solution of intricate and involved business problems. In his present connection, he is promoting one of the leading productive industries of his part of the state and the policy which he follows is one which makes his example worthy of emulation.

One of the native sons of Bellevue, he was born August 26, 1859, of the marriage of Adam and Louisa (Heusner) Zehner, who were among the early settlers of this city. As the name indicates the family is of German origin. The father, who was born in Germany in 1814, there spent the first thirty years of his life and in 1844 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, settling first at Sandusky, where he conducted a tannery for about a year. At the end of that time, his plant was destroyed by fire and he removed to Bellevue, where he purchased the building in which his son Charles Zehner now carries on business. There he established a tannery, which he conducted until about 1872, when he retired from active business life to spend his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest. His death occurred in 1888 and his wife died December 20, 1879. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Christian, the eldest, died in 1882 at the age of thirty-two years. John, president of the Zehner Brothers Packing Company and living in Toledo, Ohio, was formerly one of the directors of the First National Bank of Bellevue and also served as a member of the town council while living here. He married Matilda Hepp and unto them have been born seven children: Adam, Theodore, deceased; Huldah, Ernest, Albert and Edna and Edgar, twins; Charles is the next member of the family. The other two died in infancy.

Charles Zehner has always made his home in Bellevue and at the usual age, entered the public schools, wherein he mastered the branches of learning that qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties. He made his initial step in the business world as an employe in his brother's meat market, being thus engaged from 1879 until 1881. In the latter year, he was admitted to a partnership and they continued as retail merchants until 1890, when they began the packing business. They had established the new enterprise on a paying basis when, in 1893, their plant was destroyed by fire. Not discouraged with this catastrophe, they at once rebuilt and in 1894, organized a stock company with about twenty stockholders, the business being capitalized for twenty-five thousand dollars. The original officers were: John Zehner, president; Charles Zehner, vice-president and treasurer; and I. R. Felker, secretary; with J. H. Weber, Willis Vickery and Max Endle, as directors. The present officials are; John Zehner, president; Charles Zehner, vice-president and treasurer; L. P. Oehm, secretary; and I. N.

Humphrey, assistant secretary and treasurer. These gentlemen are all members of the board of directors together with J. P. Ruffing, Martin Gross, J. W. Closs, I. A. Biehl, George Slessman, J. H. Becker, B. A. Becker, Julius Waldo, W. J. Kinker, Robert Villwalk, William Steiflof and Joseph Kest. The firm has had to increase its capitalization from time to time to take care of its rapidly growing business until now it is capitalized at seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. From the beginning the business has proven a profitable venture for it was carefully organized and the work has been thoroughly systematized and the company gives to the purchasing public a just equivalent for money invested. The constantly extending reputation of the house has brought to them a growing trade and renders this one of the important productive industries of Bellevue. Mr. Zehner also figures in business circles of Bellevue as one of the directors of the First National Bank. He purchased his brother John's shares in the institution and has since had voice in the management of this sound financial concern.

Mr. Zehner was married on the 28th of March, 1883, to Miss Flora Keller, a daughter of August and Ernestine (Wise) Keller, of Bellevue. They have two children: Carl C. and Louisa A. The former married Jennie Gazley and resides on the old family homestead. He is now associated with his father in business. The daughter is the wife of Walter Raish and also resides in Bellevue.

Charles Zehner and his sons are members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and since February 10, 1882, he has been connected with the Royal Arcanum. He is likewise a member of the German Aid Society, has been chairman of the finance committee of that organization for fifteen years and is in hearty sympathy with its purposes and its work. He also belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles and to the Lutheran church. His many substantial qualities have won him the favorable regard of those with whom business and social relations have brought him in contact. Having always resided in Bellevue, he is well known here, and his record is as an open book which all may read. The principles of sterling manhood are numbered among his chief characteristics, and his life history proves that success and an honorable name may be won simultaneously.

JOHN BAUER.

One of the successful agriculturists of New Haven township, Huron county, is John Bauer, who owns the one hundred acres of fine land on which he lives. He was born in Germany, September 27, 1858, and is the son of Henry and Margaret Bauer, who never left their native land, which was also the place of their death. Of their five children, however three came to this country and settled in Ohio. They are William, a resident of Milan, Ohio; Anthony, who lives in Ashland county, Ohio; and John, of this review. Catherine is deceased and one died in infancy.

John Bauer was twenty-eight years of age when he came to the United States. He had received his education in the land of his birth and there had learned the trade of a furniture maker. When in 1887 he came to this country he made his way almost directly to Ohio, locating first at Norwalk, where he ob-



MR. AND MRS. JOHN BAUER

tained employment on the railroad. After a year he took up farming, working for the different landholders of the neighborhood. He was a hard worker and an excellent manager, so that in a couple of years he had saved seventy-five dollars, which was sufficient, with his wife's help to buy forty acres of land in Ashland county. There he made his home for about eight years, reaping large harvests from his fields and practicing that sturdy economy that has been one reason for his prosperity. On selling the farm in Ashland county, he moved to New Haven township, Huron county, where in 1903, he purchased his present tract of land from William Childs. In the years it has been his home he has made a number of improvements, greatly increasing its value. The land is best adapted to general agricultural and yields generous returns for the hard work Mr. Bauer puts upon it.

On the 4th of February, 1890, Mr. Bauer married Miss Augusta Kimball, who is a daughter of Philip and Caroline Kimball of New Haven township, and came here with her parents in February, 1886. Two sons have blessed Mr. and Mrs. Bauer's union: Carl, born January 11, 1891; and William, born November 30, 1892. Both live at home and assist their father on the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Bauer are adherents of the Lutheran faith and attend the services of the church of that denomination at Chicago, Ohio, taking an active part in its work, social as well as religious. Though foreign born, Mr. Bauer has participated in the life of the township, and, being recognized as a good citizen and able man, was elected to the office of road supervisor. Lack of familiarity with the English language, however, prevented his serving in this capacity, but he has the satisfaction of having received a palpable proof of the attitude of his neighbors toward him.

SEBASTIAN B. LIEDORFF.

No resident of Huron county is more deserving of the proud American title of a self-made man than is Sebastian B. Liedorff, who from the age of twelve years has been dependent entirely upon his own resources and through industry, energy and perseverance, has gained a foremost place among the substantial farmers of this county. He is, moreover, entitled to special mention in this volume from the fact that throughout the period of the Civil war, he served his country valiantly and bravely, the story of his military record reading like a romance, with its thrilling adventures and deeds of heroism.

As the name indicates, Mr. Liedorff is of German origin, his birth having occurred in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, on the 6th of October, 1840. He is a son of Henry and Elizabeth Liedorff, also natives of the fatherland, where the mother's death occurred in the early '40s. In 1847, the father brought his family, which consisted of two sons and four daughters, our subject being the third in order of birth to America, settling first in Sandusky, Ohio. The father had followed the occupation of a potter in his native country, but upon his arrival in the United States, he was variously employed at any honest labor which he found to do. He was a sturdy and honest German, whose force of character and excellent traits of man-

hood won for him the respect and esteem of his fellowmen and made him a valued citizen in any community. He passed away at his home in Erie county at the venerable age of eighty-four years.

Sebastian B. Liedorff was a little lad of seven years when he came with his father to America and he resided under the parental roof until twelve years old, at which early age, he left home to make his own way in the world and since that time he has been dependent entirely upon his own resources. He commenced his business career in the employ of N. C. Dildine, of Huron township, Erie county, a broom manufacturer, and in his home, Mr. Liedorff learned the broom-making trade. In return for his labor, he received six dollars per month and the opportunity of attending school during the winter seasons, while he performed various tasks about the place in payment of his board. He resided with Mr. Dildine's family for three years, each year his wages being increased a dollar per month.

When fifteen years of age, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, hiring as a farmhand to Thomas Hughes, a farmer of Huron township, Erie county, who paid him ten dollars per month. In the meantime, he had gained an excellent reputation throughout the community for he was energetic, industrious, willing and eager to do whatever was assigned him, while he was at all times actuated by a desire to succeed in the business world, and these characteristics made his services in constant demand. In the spring of 1861, he accepted a position with Mrs. Elizabeth Dale, a widow of Huron township, Erie county, as superintendent of her farm, receiving for his services thirteen dollars per month. The fact that he was called to responsible positions when not yet twenty years of age, is an indication that he not only proved capable and efficient in his work, but also perfectly reliable and trustworthy, enjoying the confidence of his employers.

In 1861, when the Civil war broke out Mr. Liedorff sought to enlist at the first call for troops, but was dissuaded, much against his will. When the second call came, however, he laid aside all personal and business considerations and on September 4, 1861, enlisted as a member of Company A, Third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, serving until his term of enlistment expired. He then re-enlisted in the same company and regiment, serving until August 4, 1865, or until the close of hostilities. He entered the service as a private soldier, but his bravery and loyalty to duty won him promotion and he was mustered out with the rank of first duty sergeant. His regiment became a part of the Army of the Cumberland and engaged in all of the battles of that campaign. Mr. Liedorff participated in every battle where his regiment fought with the exception of the engagement at Perryville, when he was ill in the hospital at Nashville, having contracted typhoid fever. He won an excellent record for bravery and heroism and participated in many thrilling adventures. He was taken prisoner three different times, the first occasion being at the battle of Winchester, Tennessee, in August, 1863. He escaped however, and returned safely to his regiment. He was again taken prisoner at Pulaski, Tennessee, in September, 1863, and after about ten hours, together with some comrades, he again made his escape. His third capture occurred just after the battle of Stone River, while making a cavalry charge. He was wounded in the face and knocked from his horse, and then was taken prisoner by the enemy but was fortunate in again effecting an escape.

When his country no longer needed his services, Mr. Liedorff returned to Huron township, Erie county, on the 6th of August, 1865, and two days later again entered the employ of Mrs. Dale at a salary of one dollar per day. He was thus engaged for about a year, at the expiration of which period, he was employed by various people for about two years. Being desirous, however, that his efforts should more directly benefit himself, in 1867, he entered business on his own account as a manufacturer of brooms at West Huron and was thus actively identified with the industrial interests of that place for three years, or until his marriage, when, in connection with his broom-making, he also engaged in farming in West Huron. He continued to make that his place of residence for eleven years, and then, in 1883, he purchased a farm in Hartland township, Huron county, where he has since continued to reside. The farm consists of ninety-five acres of finely improved land, which is all under an excellent state of cultivation, to the operation of which Mr. Liedorff is directing his entire time and attention. Throughout his connection with agricultural interests, he has been very successful and now enjoys an abundance of this world's goods. He has accumulated a handsome competency, but every dollar he has earned at the cost of indefatigable energy, frugality and economy. A man of unusual business ability, he has combined the sturdy qualities of the Teutonic race with the progressive and enterprising traits of the American, with the result that he is today recognized as one of the foremost farmers and business men of his section of the county. In the midst of his farm, he has erected a fine residence, which is one of the best in the county.

It was on the 14th of February, 1872 that Mr. Liedorff was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Coles, a daughter of Isaac and Sarah Coles, residents of Sandusky, Ohio. Unto this union, have been born five children, namely: George S., a farmer of Hartland township; Henry J., following farming in the same township; Burt I., a thresher of Hartland township; Gus W., who is married and operates the home farm; and Lillie, who passed away in infancy. There are also four grandsons and three granddaughters in the family. The sons are all prosperous farmers and are men highly esteemed throughout the community.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Liedorff has been republican in politics, giving stanch allegiance to that party which was the support of the nation in her darkest hour, and in his citizenship, he has ever been as loyal to her interests as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields. He cast his first vote for John Brough for governor of Ohio in 1863, when in line of battle, and his first presidential ballot was cast in favor of Abraham Lincoln in 1864 while a member of the Army of the Cumberland, stationed at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Since his first vote, he has supported every candidate for president and also for governor of Ohio on the republican ticket and although he has been deeply interested in the progress of the party, he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He is a member of Townsend Post, No. 414, G. A. R., and has ever been active in the affairs of that body, having frequently served as delegate to various state and national encampments. With his old army comrades, he delights in recalling the experiences and adventures which occurred during the Civil war, and he also has many interesting experiences to relate concerning his boyhood days. He often tells of how, before he left home, his first em-

ployer paid him six cents a day for his labor, which consisted of dropping corn in the corn planting season, and in addition, he received his dinners and suppers. His has been a remarkable career, the salient characteristics of which have been indomitable energy, unfaltering perseverance and strict integrity, and he stands today as a splendid example of the power and force of earnest effort, intelligently applied labor and honorable manhood. He has now reached the sixty-ninth milestone on life's journey, and he can look back over his past without regret and forward into the future without fear.

ALMON B. WOOD.

Almon B. Wood, a farmer of Greenfield township, Huron county, owns eighty-four acres of land on which he lives and two hundred and ten acres in another farm in the same township. He was born in this township, September 29, 1845, and is the son of Lewis and Martha (Owen) Wood. The father was a son of Jonah Wood, a farmer of New York state, who had served in the American Revolution. He was born in New York December 25th, 1800, and came to Ohio about the year 1833, the days of the pioneers, bringing his wife and four young children with him. The little party made the journey to Huron, Ohio, by boat, and then with a team of horses crossed the country to Greenfield township. What few household effects they had were brought with them to this new land, where they were much needed though they had greatly impeded their progress through the wilderness. Arriving in Greenfield township, Mr. Wood purchased the two hundred and ten acres of land which his son now owns from Jeremiah Cole, paying ten dollars per acre, but as Mr. Wood did not have the full amount and labor would be accepted as part payment, he agreed to thresh four hundred bushels of wheat for Mr. Cole. This was not done in the simple manner of today, but by driving three-year-old colts back and forth over it, thus stamping out the grain from the husks. Having purchased his land, Mr. Wood began building a log house and barn, which were to be their buildings until better ones could be provided, and it was not until 1838, that the frame house was completed which remained his home until his death. He also bought the smaller farm on which his son now lives from a Mr. Patterson. On the 1st of June, 1823, Mr. Wood married Miss Martha Owen, a native of New York state, who was born April 24, 1802, and lived to see eighty-five years of activity pass over her head, her death occurring January 21, 1887, a little less than a year after the demise of her helpmeet. In their family were nine children: Jane, deceased, who was born November 24, 1823, and became the wife of Hiram Tooker; Samantha and Luantha, twins, who were born January 11, 1825, while the former passed away July 23, 1892, and the latter became the wife of Ransom Mather, who died April 18, 1855; Halsy, who was born November 30, 1828, and died May 14, 1831; Mary, born May 23, 1832, who became the wife of George Dean, and died February 10, 1859; Jeremiah C., deceased, born January 10, 1834; Hannah S., who was born January 18, 1838, married Joseph Randall, and died September 2, 1907; Halsy, who was

born November 18, 1840, and died October 12, 1843; and Almon B., of this review.

Almon B. Wood has spent all his life in Greenfield township, having been reared on the farm and receiving his early education of the district schools, while for one winter he attended Oberlin College. In 1865, at a call for troops he enlisted in Company D of the One Hundred and Ninety-first Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The company was mustered in at Sandusky and sent to Camp Chase, Columbus, where Mr. Wood contracted the measles. Thus the time he might have spent in active service was of necessity passed in the hospital, and when he had sufficiently recovered to be returned home he was mustered out of the army. After this brief experience, he took up farming and identified himself with the affairs of the township, becoming in the subsequent years not only very prosperous, but also well known and highly respected by all with whom he has come in contact. He is commonly called "Bud Wood" and the familiarity of this cognomen bears evidence to the good will of his neighbors.

On the 6th of October, 1887, Mr. Wood married Miss Frances B. Graham, a daughter of Alexander and Mary (McCammon) Graham, of Greenfield township. Mr. Graham was born in Ireland in 1810 and at the age of eighteen came to this country with his parents. They settled in Huron county which remained Mr. Graham's home until his death. His wife, whom he married October 25, 1832, was born in Pennsylvania, April 22, 1813, and lived until February 11, 1899, having reared the following children: Alex, who passed away June 2, 1887; John, deceased; Samuel, deceased; Eliza; Martha; Mollie; Robinson; Jennie; George; William; Frances B.; Ida; and Charles. To Mr. and Mrs. Wood have been born five children: Glenn A., born June 12, 1890; Hazel B., born October 5, 1891; Bernice M., born September 14, 1893; Martha G., born June 9, 1895; and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Wood is a member of the Congregational church of Steuben, Ohio, and is active in its work.

Mr. Wood affiliates politically with the democratic party and served as constable for one term. He is a man of education and of wide interests, blessed with the capacity of making and retaining a large number of friends. Those who know him are unanimous in their admiration of him and do not begrudge him the success which has made possible his retirement from the active pursuit of farming.

CHARLES E. PARMELEE.

Charles E. Parmelee, a well known and successful farmer and dairyman of Ridgefield township, where he owns an excellent farm of eighty-six acres, was born at Kent, Portage county, Ohio, on the 4th of April, 1850, his parents being John F. and Mary E. (Tilton) Parmelee. The father passed away at Kent in the year 1855, leaving a family of three children, namely: Charles E., of this review; Frank, who is now deceased; and George. When our subject was about eleven years of age the mother was again married, her second union being with Allen B. Lindsley, of Huron county, who brought the family to his farm in Ridge-

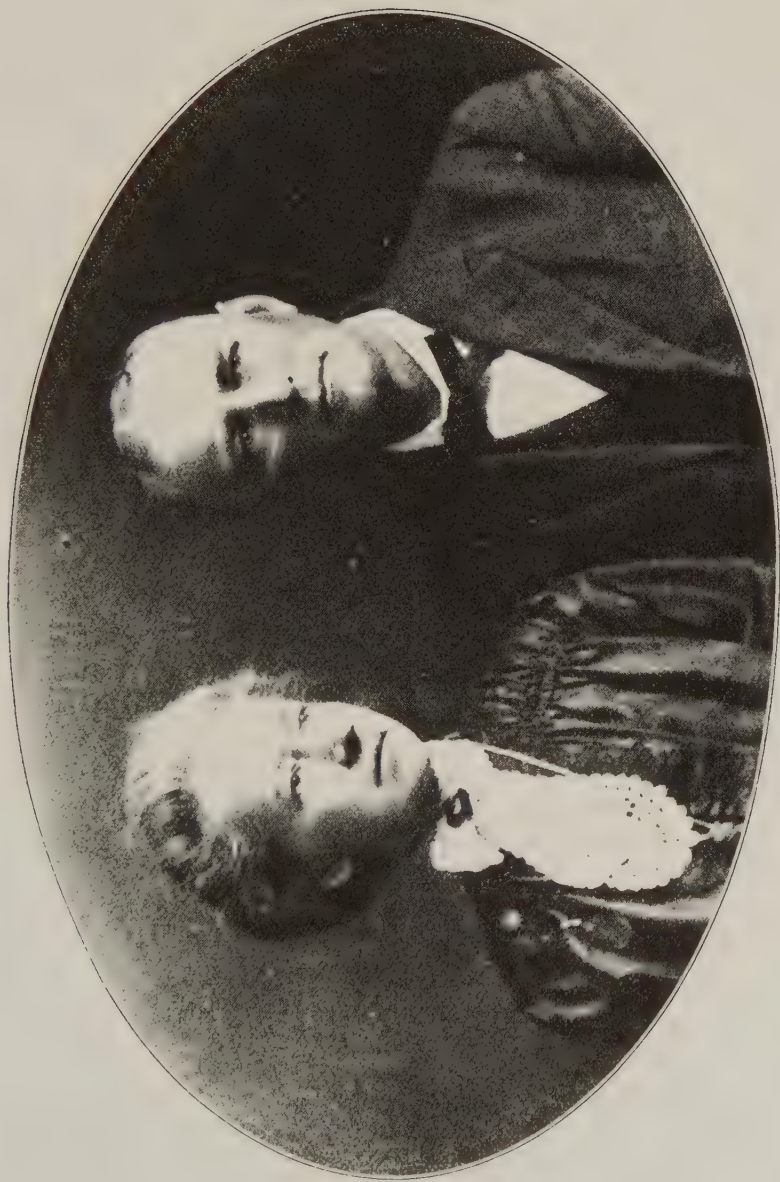
field township. The demise of Mr. Lindsley occurred in June, 1877, but his widow still survives, making her home with her son, Charles E.

The gentleman whose name initiates this review obtained his education in the district schools and since putting aside his text-books has given his attention to the pursuits of farming and dairying. With the exception of thirteen years, he has made his home on the farm where he resides from the age of eleven years and the property is now in his possession. It is a rich and productive tract of land comprising eighty-six acres and in addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, he also conducts the Forest Grove Dairy, owning a large number of fine cattle. In all of his business affairs, he is alert and enterprising, meeting with the measure of success which always rewards earnest, persistent and well directed labor. His wife is the owner of a farm of one hundred and thirteen and a half acres in Hartland township. In March, 1877, he removed to that township, where he made his home until 1885, and then on account of ill health, he gave up farming for a time and resided in New London, but in 1890, he returned to the farm which is his home at the present time.

On the 1st of January, 1877, Mr. Parmelee was united in marriage to Miss Harriett E. Brightman, a daughter of Pardon B. and Lucretia (Jones) Brightman, of Sherman township, this county. Unto them have been born two children, as follows: Nellie, who gave her hand in marriage to James W. Candler; and Mildred P., who is attending school. Mr. Parmelee is a valued member of the Congregational church and his many sterling traits of character have won him an extensive circle of friends throughout the community where he has now resided for almost a half century.

EPHRAIM ALFORD SMEDLEY, M. D.

Dr. Ephraim Alford Smedley, a successful and well known representative of the medical fraternity in Huron county, has continuously practiced his profession in North Fairfield since the fall of 1883. He is a native of Brewerton, New York, his birth having there occurred on the 12th of October, 1857. His paternal grandparents, Dr. Chester and Ann (Landon) Smedley, were both natives of Connecticut. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Daniel Light. Lindorf Smedley, the father of Dr. E. A. Smedley, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, on the 12th of September, 1823, and when three years of age was taken by his parents to Brewerton, New York. On the 29th of October, 1856, in Madison county, that state, he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Light. In 1867 he came to Huron county, Ohio, taking up his abode at Townsend on the 20th of March of that year. Here he was successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days, being widely recognized throughout the community as a most substantial and respected citizen. It was on the 12th of February, 1903, that he was called to his final rest. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Ephraim Alford, Chester D., Abbey C. and James, all natives of Brewerton, New York.



MR. AND MRS. E. A. SMEDLEY

Dr. E. A. Smedley obtained his preliminary education in the common schools of this county and subsequently entered the Ohio Normal University at Ada, pursuing his studies there during the years 1875, 1876 and 1877. Having **determined** upon the practice of medicine as a life work, he then entered the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which institution he received his degree of M. D. in 1883. In the fall of the same year he located for practice at North Fairfield, where he has since remained as an active and successful representative of his chosen calling, enjoying a lucrative and constantly growing patronage.

On the 11th of August, 1885, Dr. Smedley was united in marriage to Miss Idalia Whitney, whose birth occurred in East Townsend, Huron county, Ohio, on the 5th of May, 1856. Her parents, Charles and Roxanna (Palmer) Whitney, were natives of Wilton, Connecticut, and China, New York, respectively, the former born on the 23d of September, 1812, and the latter on November 12, 1816. Their children were six in number, as follows: Idalia, now Mrs. Smedley; Palmer; Ann; Calvin; John L.; and Richard B. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Smedley were Henry and Lucy (Grummond) Whitney, natives of Connecticut. Their children were as follows: Henry Fitch, Charles, William, Sally Ann, Esther, Hannah, Jeremiah, John, Lucretia and George. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Smedley were Lory and Elizabeth (La Mott) Palmer, natives of the Empire state, who reared the following children: John, Mary Ann, Sarah and Roxanna. Dr. and Mrs. Smedley have two children, namely: Roxanna Palmer, whose birth occurred November 15, 1886, and who is now in the Lakeside Training School for Nurses at Cleveland, Ohio; and Karl Lindorf, whose natal day was February 23, 1895.

Dr. Smedley is now serving as health officer of Fairfield township. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Christian church. His life has been actuated at all times by high and honorable principles, manifested in his professional labors and in his private life. Anything which tends to bring to man the key to that complex mystery which we call life is of interest to him, and he has been a close and discriminating student of the science of medicine, realizing fully the obligations that devolve upon him in the practice of his chosen calling.

BENJAMIN BARNES.

Benjamin Barnes, who has been connected with railroad business for more than thirty years, has, during that time, gained a most creditable record for himself and is numbered among the well known and prominent citizens of this community. One of Ohio's native sons, he was born on the 8th of July, 1855, a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Fields) Barnes. The family has long been represented in this country, members of the name having come from England, in the early part of the seventeenth century.

The father of our subject, who was born in 1796, was a native of Virginia and came to Ohio from the District of Columbia in 1828. He was a painter and glazier

by trade and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, assisting in the defense of the capitol and, after its destruction, aided in its reconstruction along the line of his trade. After his removal to Columbus, Ohio, however, he was identified with the butchering business, being thus engaged until 1856, in which year he removed with his family to Wakeman, where he operated a mill for a short time. He again entered the butchering business and was thus connected until his death, which occurred in August, 1874. A man of strong convictions, he based his opinions upon his own judgment rather than upon what others thought and, while he possessed a most positive disposition, he nevertheless was quick to forgive when proper apology was offered. He was married twice, Miss Elizabeth Fields becoming his second wife. She passed away July 3, 1905, and they were both laid to rest in the Wakeman cemetery. In their family were seven children, namely: Nimia, Morris P., Benjamin, Robert, Alice, Albert and Anna, the last two passing away in infancy while the other five still survive.

Benjamin Barnes, whose name introduces this sketch, was reared under the parental roof and attended the schools of Wakeman in the acquirement of an education. He remained at home until twenty years of age, in the meantime assisting his father in the butchering business. In 1876, he entered the railroad service and has been engaged in this line of work to the present time. He entered the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad in 1879, and has been connected with that company for thirty years, operating on the Cleveland & Toledo division. He has been eminently successful in his relations with railroad business, being promoted from one position to another until he is today serving as passenger conductor, having acted in that capacity since 1890. Throughout his entire connection with the railroad, he has been most careful and has never had a wreck, has never been seriously injured and none of his crews has ever been injured, a record which is indeed most unusual.

Mr. Barnes was united in marriage on the 29th of November, 1874, to Miss Sarah M. Flower, a daughter of Isaac and Ann (Stratton) Flower, natives of England. Upon coming to America in 1851, her parents settled in Oswego, New York, where they remained for one year, and then, continuing their westward journey, located at Cooks Corners, in Huron county, in 1852. In 1856, they removed to Clarksfield, four years later to East Townsend and in 1865 came to Wakeman. They resided here until 1870, when they removed to Missouri, where they remained two years, returning to Wakeman in 1872. Throughout these years Mr. Flower had been engaged in the harness business, being a manufacturer and dealer, but in 1874, he became identified with the hotel business in this city, being thus connected until 1894. In the latter year, he retired from active life while his demise occurred on the 13th of January, 1903, when he had reached the venerable age of ninety-three years. His wife had passed away December 8, 1896. In their family were five children, Emma, Alfred, Anna, Sarah and Frederick, all of whom survive with the exception of Anna, who died in infancy.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Barnes has been blessed with one son and one daughter, William O. and Lulu May. The latter is now the wife of James I. Seybert, of this city, and they have one son, Howard Benjamin. William O. Barnes is also married and lives in Toledo. He has followed in his father's footsteps and is a conductor on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad.

Mr. Barnes is well known in fraternal circles, holding membership in Gibson Lodge, No. 301, F. & A. M., and belongs to Webb Chapter, R. A. M., of Cleveland, Ohio, while he has taken the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in Masonry. He likewise is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors. He is a stalwart champion of the democracy and in former years has been very active and influential in local politics, having frequently represented his party as a delegate at various district, county and state conventions. He is intensely loyal and public spirited in his citizenship, aiding in all movements and measures which have for their object the substantial and permanent upbuilding and improvement of the community. He is a great athlete, enthusiastic in the matter of outdoor sports and takes especial delight in fishing and hunting, frequently enjoying, in the company of other kindred spirits, a ten-days' trip into the woods and along the streams in the pursuit of his favorite pastimes. As a young man, he was particularly fond of baseball and yet maintains a keen interest in this national game, possessing considerable skill himself in this line and often joining in games with local teams. The Barnes home is modern and attractive in its architecture and surroundings and is a favorite resort with a host of friends to whom its cordial hospitality is freely extended. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes are genial, companionable people, who not only understand how to enjoy life themselves, but possess the happy faculty of making others enjoy it also, the influence and good fellowship of their home being a potent factor in the social circles of the community.

WILLIAM H. KIEFER.

William H. Kiefer is well known not only in Norwalk, but in the surrounding country as well, having been engaged in the undertaking business here since 1897. He is a native son of this city, his birth having here occurred May 2, 1874. His father, Robert Kiefer, was born in Germany and when a young man emigrated to the United States in 1869. He at once made his way to Norwalk and engaged in the undertaking and furniture business, continuing in the same until his death, which occurred in 1889. His wife, Mrs. Mary Kiefer, then succeeded to the business, the firm name being M. Kiefer, and thus continuing until 1896, when the establishment was destroyed by fire.

After leaving school, William H. Kiefer was employed in the undertaking department of his mother's business, becoming thoroughly trained in that line of work, and was ready to take charge of the business on his own account after the fire in 1896. He then opened an undertaking establishment and has thus been identified with the business interests of the city to the present time. He is a graduate in embalming of four different colleges and was the first to advocate the law requiring an examination for embalmers. He is a charter member of the National Association of Embalmers, which was organized in 1896, and it was through the efforts of this society, that a state board was appointed for examination of embalmers. Interested in everything that tends to promote his knowledge of the business to which he is devoting his attention, Mr. Kiefer today stands among the foremost undertakers, not only in his home city but throughout the state of

Ohio, and he has secured a very large and lucrative patronage, his services being in demand throughout a vast section.

Mr. Kiefer is also a prominent figure in the public affairs, being an ardent supporter of the democratic party. He served on the city council four years, being the youngest member of that body. He has also for the past six years been chief deputy of the Huron county board of supervisors of election, while for several years he has served on both county, central and city committees. He is regarded as a leader in democratic circles and his opinions carry weight and influence among his fellow citizens.

Equally prominent in fraternal circles, Mr. Kiefer was one of the organizers of the Knights of Columbus in Norwalk, of which he is a member, and he also holds membership with the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he has been chief for the past eight years. He is also identified with the Elks, the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Concordia Society. Courteous and affable, he is popular among a wide circle of friends, while as a funeral director, he has won a wide reputation.

WILLIAM B. McCULLOW.

William B. McCulloch, the mayor of Greenwich village who has engineered many of the noticeable municipal improvements here, was born February 22, 1870, in Fairfield township, and is the son of Joseph Edward and Lucena (Baker) McCulloch. The mother was born in Huron county, Ohio, but the father's birthplace was Tuckerton, New Jersey, though he was only four years old when brought by his parents to Ohio, in 1830. His father was a farmer and became prominent and influential in the community in which he lived. Joseph Edward McCulloch also followed the life of a farmer and besides owning the old homestead, acquired considerable property in Greenwich village. He was a man active in local affairs and filled many of the offices of township and village with distinction, winning for himself a reputation for sterling integrity. He had a family of two sons, Charles and William B., both of whom are living, the former being a merchant in Greenwich. On the 1st of April, 1901, he completed his earthly course, and his widow, who resides in Greenwich, still survives him.

As the family became residents of Greenwich village in 1877, William B. McCulloch received his education in the schools there, though he was prevented from graduation by ill health. Upon leaving school, he clerked for his brother Charles in a clothing store for a period of seven years, at the end of which time he took up the trade of watch and clock repairing and investigated the jewelry business. In 1898, he engaged in the latter for himself, succeeding W. B. Burt, of Greenwich, and also offered his services as a graduate optician, for he had completed the requisite course at the South Bend College of Optics. His stock of jewelry is both large and in good taste, comparing very favorably with that of the best firms in larger towns, and in his business dealings has been found both honorable and desirous of satisfying his customers. Besides being a good man of affairs, he is also a public-spirited citizen, and has, among other things,

been instrumental in establishing several of the flourishing industries of the community.

In politics, Mr. McCullow is a republican and is an active representative of the party. For a period of seven years, he served as clerk of the village, and the record of his work was so satisfactory, that in 1907, he was the people's choice for mayor, an office he holds to the present. His administration has been active in promoting public improvements of a substantial kind, in establishing a sewerage system and in inaugurating street paving, which, by the close of 1909, will extend through a full mile of the village streets, and in advancing other matters that make for the material prosperity of the village.

On the 29th of March, 1896, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. McCullow and Miss Felicia Mary Kraft, a daughter of John and Barbara Mary (Bauer) Kraft, of Galion, Ohio. Mr. Kraft was a retired business man of that city and never became a resident of Huron county. To Mr. and Mrs. McCullow was born one child, who did not survive the period of infancy.

In the O. K. Lodge, No. 616, of the Knights of Pythias, Mr. McCullow is an ardent worker, and in it has filled most of the chairs. He is a popular man who makes friends easily and is present at most of the lodge meetings. His principal relaxation from the cares of business and administration, however, is obtained in the enjoyment of a day's hunting and fishing, when opportunity affords, but he is not a faddist; on the contrary an enterprising business man and an able executive, fully imbued with the spirit of public progress, which he does all in his power to promote, realizing that a community must keep abreast of the time, or else slip to one side and be wholly engulfed in the world struggle. Under the wise guidance of Mrs. McCullow, who by the way is a member of the German Reformed church, devoted to the performance of good works, and a member of the Twentieth Century Reading Club, the McCullow home occupies a prominent place in the social and intellectual life of the village. A woman of culture and refinement, she is an able assistant to her husband and is fully in sympathy with his plans for the advancement of the community.

OLIVER O. UNDERWOOD.

Oliver O. Underwood, numbered among the active and prosperous farmers of Fairfield township, owns and cultivates one hundred acres of rich and productive land, which is now highly improved in accordance with the most modern methods of farming. His entire life has been passed in Huron county, for he is one of the native sons, his birth having occurred in Greenwich township, January 14, 1862. He represents one of the old families of this part of the state, his parents being Levi and Catherine (McCullough) Underwood, the former a native of Pennsylvania. Their family numbered three sons and two daughters: Oliver, James, Charles, Ola and Eva.

In the usual manner of farm lads Oliver O. Underwood spent his youthful days. As soon as old enough to handle the plow, he took his place in the fields and was there busily employed from early spring planting until crops were harvested in

the late autumn. He was thus carefully trained in the occupation which he has made his life work. In early manhood, he also learned the carpenter's trade and engaged in that pursuit for a time but gives his entire attention to farming at present. His educational privileges were those afforded by the public schools and reading and observation have also largely broadened his knowledge.

On the 24th of December, 1887, Mr. Underwood was united in marriage to Miss Anna Gibson, who was born in Greenwich township, June 13, 1866, and is a daughter of Jerome and Hulda (Healy) Gibson. The father was born in 1840 and was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gibson, whose other children were: Mary, Edward, Lena and Isaac. Having arrived at years of maturity, Jerome Gibson wedded Hulda Healy, whose birth occurred in 1843. She was one of the children of Jacob and Anna (Brooks) Healy, and her sisters are Edith, Elizabeth and Sarah. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Gibson there were born three daughters and two sons: Anna, Samuel, Carrie, Fletcher and Jennie. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Underwood has been blessed with nine children: Clinton, Harry, Arlie, Ruth, Hulda, Eva, Blanche, Charlie and Ralph. The family home is on a farm of one hundred acres in Fairfield township, which is the property of Mr. Underwood. There are good buildings upon the place, furnishing ample shelter to grain and stock and these are surrounded by well tilled fields. The latest improved machinery is used in carrying on the work of the farm and the entire property presents a neat and attractive appearance. Mr. Underwood gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and keeps well informed concerning the leading questions and issues of the day, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to give his undivided attention to his business affairs. In their capable management, he is meeting with success and providing his family with many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

RUNDELL BEECHER PALMER.

Rundell Beecher Palmer, well known as one of the progressive, prosperous and representative agriculturists of Huron county, owning five hundred acres of valuable land, was born August 28, 1832, in Fitchville, Ohio. He represents one of the oldest New England families. The *Fortune* which sailed for America soon after the arrival of the *Mayflower* numbered among its passengers the first Palmer in this country, and the family became connected by marriage with the Pilgrims who sailed on the *Mayflower* in 1620. It was in 1621 that (1) William Palmer left Noddinghamshire, and on the *Fortune* crossed the Atlantic to Salem, Massachusetts. He afterward lived at Plymouth and Duxbury, Massachusetts. (2) Walter Palmer, who also came from England, landed at Salem in 1629. He went to Charlestown, afterward to Rehobeth, Massachusetts, and finally to Pawcatuck, now Stonington, Connecticut. His descendants are largely found in Connecticut and New York. (3) Abraham Palmer sailed from England in 1628 and landed at Salem, Massachusetts, but afterward removed to Barbadoes. (4) Thomas Palmer, in the vessel *Expectation* from Ipswich, England, landed on American shores in 1635. He resided at Boston and at Bowby, Massachusetts, and one branch of his



RUNDELL B. PALMER

descent are found at Norwich, New London county, Connecticut. (5) William Palmer, of Newburg, was made a freeman in 1638. He settled at Hampton, New Hampshire, and his descendants are found throughout New England and New York. (6) John Palmer sailed as a passenger on the Elizabeth in 1634 and settled at Hingham, Massachusetts. (7) Lieutenant William Palmer, who was made a freeman at Varmouth, Massachusetts, July 7, 1636, settled at Long Island. (8) William Palmer went to Virginia and his descendants are scattered throughout the south. The Palmers of the present day are principally descended from Walter Palmer (2), Thomas Palmer (4), and William Palmer (5). Walter Palmer, born in 1598, married Rebecca Short and their children were: John, Grace, Jonas, William, Hannah, Elihu, Nehemiah, Moses, Benjamin, Gresham, Rebecca and Elizabeth. Of this family Nehemiah Palmer married Hannah Stanton and their children were: Lieutenant Joseph, Elihu, Jonathan, Daniel, Nehemiah and Hannah. Of these Lieutenant Joseph Palmer married Frances Prentice and their children were: Deacon Joseph, Hannah, Benjamin, Sarah and Jonathan. The first named, Deacon Joseph Palmer, wedded Mary Palmer and their children were: Sarah, Mary, Joseph, Francis, Amos, Moses, Hannah and Phoebe. The eldest son, Joseph Palmer, married Catharine Coats and to them were born: Joseph, William, Phoebe, Captain Amos, Elijah, Elisha, Jonathan, Hannah, Benjamin, David and Thomas. Of these Elijah Palmer married Lucretia Palmer and for his second wife a Miss Powell. His children were: Gresham, Doley, Rebecca, Phoebe, Joseph, Elisha, Lydia, Benjamin, Jesse and Hulda. Hulda Palmer married Stephen Palmer and their children were: Charles H., Lucretia, Sylvanus B., William L., Noves G., Henrietta, Marietta, Andrew, Priscilla, Martin, George W. and John Jay.

At present it is impossible to trace the ancestry down from Hulda Palmer to Seeley Palmer, the father of our subject. He was born in Greenwich, Connecticut, November 24, 1797, and grew to manhood in that state, there learning the carpenter's trade under Levi Palmer. About 1819 in company with his five brothers he came to Huron county, Ohio, where they took up land from the government, and, in following his trade, Seeley Palmer built the first courthouse here and also many of the first buildings in Norwalk and also in Fitchville. In addition to this he also cleared and improved his farm of one hundred and sixty acres and erected and operated the first sawmill in this part of the state. On the 14th of June, 1826, he was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Abigail Post, and unto them were born the following children who are still living: Rundell Beecher; Hubbard Dennison; Lucy; Eliza Ann; Nannie; and Seeley Burdette. Those of the family now deceased are: Delia; William; Hannah A.; and Julia Blanch. The wife and mother was a daughter of Ashabel Post, whose ancestors came from Holland to America, settling at New York city, then known as New Amsterdam. Ashabel Post was a sea captain in early life and later built a large wharf at Middletown, Connecticut, becoming extensively engaged in the shipping business at that place. He was twice married and by his first union had two children, Ashabel, Jr., and Betsey. There were also two children by the second marriage, William and Nancy A. Mr. Palmer's parents both lived to an advanced age and at their death were laid to rest in Fitchville cemetery.

During his youth Rundell Beecher Palmer was engaged in agricultural pursuits. After he had attained his majority he made arrangements for having a home of

his own through his marriage to Miss Julia Bliss, and they have one daughter, Minnie Palmer, who is now married.

Throughout his entire life R. B. Palmer has carried on general farming with the exception of three years spent in the service of his country in the Civil war. He enlisted in the Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the First Brigade of the Second Division of the Twelfth and Twentieth Army Corps. He joined the regiment as a private and saw much hard service. His first engagement was at Cross Lane and he was also at Blue Gap. He likewise participated in the battle of Winchester and in others of equal importance, and he was in the telegraph department before and after the war closed. He received many close calls while in the service but never sustained any severe wounds. With the exception of the time spent at the front he has always carried on general farming and he now occupies and owns the old homestead, comprising about four hundred acres of rich and arable land. The place is under a high state of cultivation, responding readily to the care and labor which Mr. Palmer bestows upon it. He follows the most modern methods in his farm work and still gives active supervision to his place although he leaves the actual work of the fields to others, for he has now reached the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey. His sister, Miss Eliza Ann Palmer, resides with him.

In his religious faith Mr. Palmer is a Congregationalist. His political belief accords with the principles of the republican party and he is an active worker in its ranks but has continuously declined to become a candidate for office although often solicited to do so. His long residence in the county has made him widely known and his many substantial qualities have gained for him the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

LEONARD A. VAIL.

Leonard A. Vail, who is engaged in general farming in Bronson township, lives on the old Vail homestead, comprising one hundred and fifty-two acres of well improved and valuable land. He was born on this farm, January 25, 1850, his father, David Vail having located on this land in 1835, it being then wild and unimproved. He was born in Newfield, Tompkins county, New York, October 8, 1811, and in pioneer times, he made his way to the Buckeye state, locating first in Elyria. Later he came to Huron county and located on a farm, erecting the buildings thereon himself, as he had previously learned and followed the carpenter's trade. He was married December 7, 1845, in Fairfield, Huron county, to Miss Almira Adams, who was born at Symphronia, Cayuga county, New York, and by this union, there were born four sons and one daughter, namely: David W., Leonard A., John J., Alice and Charles W. The wife and mother departed this life January 5, 1887, and on the 10th of April, 1888, Mr. Vail wedded Ellen Jeanette Sweet, by whom he had one son, Adelbert S., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, and in which connection a more complete record of the father is given. David Vail passed away at his home in Olena, in 1907, when more than ninety-five



MR. AND MRS. SEELEY PALMER

years of age. He was a highly respected citizen and had made his home in Huron county throughout a long period.

Leonard A. Vail was reared to farm life, assisting in the operation of the home farm during the period of his boyhood and youth. He began his education in the district schools near his father's home and later spent one term in the schools at Milan. With the exception of four years spent in the mercantile business in Olena, Mr. Vail has always followed farming and is today the owner of the old Vail homestead, comprising one hundred and fifty-two acres. He is very methodical in carrying on his work and each year harvests good crops, for which he finds ready sale on the market. He has always taken an active interest in public improvement.

In 1873 Mr. Vail was united in marriage to Miss Adelia Robinson, by whom he had one son, William D., and after her death, which occurred May 6, 1878, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Elvira Taintor, who was born in Huron county, March 27, 1850. Her parents were Chauncey and Cordelia R. (Phillips) Taintor, the former born in Brighton, Monroe county, New York, June 21, 1817, while the birth of the latter occurred in Bristol, Ontario county, New York, May 29, 1819. Mr. and Mrs. Taintor were married June 24, 1841, and reared a family of four daughters, of whom Mrs. Vail is the youngest. Mr. Taintor came of Scotch ancestry, while his wife was of English descent. He followed farming in Huron county and died August 14, 1849, while Mrs. Taintor departed this life November 24, 1861.

Mr. Vail is independent in politics, supporting only the men whom he deems best fitted to fill official positions, regardless of party ties. He has ever taken a lively interest in all public affairs, lending his aid and influence in the cause of every good movement and heartily promoting the progress and advancement of his community.

DANIEL C. CLARY.

Daniel C. Clary, operating a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Ridgefield township, where he has continued to reside from his birth to the present time, was born on the 9th of January, 1858, a son of Homer C. and Laura A. (Humphreys) Clary. Colonel Humphreys, the maternal great-grandfather of our subject, served on the staff of General George Washington, and Daniel C. Clary now has in his possession a watch which was presented to the Colonel by Washington. Daniel Clary, the grandfather of the gentleman whose name initiates this review, made his way from the state of New York to Huron county, Ohio, about 1820, being the first man to clear land in this section. His death here occurred when he had attained the age of sixty-six years, the community thus losing one of its most respected and honored pioneer settlers. He had two sons: Homer C., the father of Daniel C. Clary; and George W., who is deceased.

The birth of Homer C. Clary occurred on Christmas day of 1825, in an old log house on the farm where our subject now resides. He continued to make his home

on this place throughout his entire life and followed agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood. He was well known and highly esteemed as a worthy native son of this county and his demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. It was in April, 1900, that he was called to his final rest. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Laura A. Humphreys and is a native of Guilford, Connecticut, came to this state with her parents in early life, the journey being made by canal boat. They settled in Huron, Erie county, where the marriage of Miss Humphreys and Homer C. Clary was subsequently celebrated. Their union was blessed with six children, as follows: George, who has passed away; Ella, who is the wife of F. C. Atherton; David; Daniel C., of this review; and Edward and Frank, both of whom are graduates of the state university at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Edward is now a civil engineer of Iowa and Frank is practicing law in New York city. The mother of these children still survives at the age of eighty years and resides on her farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Ridgefield township, which is being operated by her son, Daniel C.

In the acquirement of an education Daniel C. Clary attended the district schools and also the public schools at Monroeville. He took up the study of telegraphy in early life but throughout practically his entire business career has given his attention to the work of general farming with excellent success. On the 25th of January, 1884, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary F. Hill, a daughter of John R. and Mathilde (Stephley) Hill, of New York. By this union there is one son, Fred H., at home. Mr. Clary has a very wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the community in which his entire life has been spent and well deserves mention in this volume as a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family that has been identified with the agricultural interests of this county from the period of its earliest settlement to the present time.

AUGUST P. HORN.

August P. Horn, living on one of the finest farms in Lyme township, Huron county, was born in Peru township, this county, February 6, 1856, a son of William and Margaret (Boehler) Horn, natives of Germany. They crossed the Atlantic in 1849, locating in Huron county, Ohio, where they became identified with the early settlers of this district. At first they rented land and then, in 1856, purchased one hundred and five acres in Peru township. When the land came into their possession it was still wild but with untiring energy and determination Mr. Horn set about to clear the land and erected a house for his family. Here the remaining days of Mr. and Mrs. William Horn were spent, his death occurring in 1883, when sixty-four years of age, while the latter survived until 1903, passing away at the age of eighty-three years. Their family consisted of nine children, namely: Louise and August, both of whom were born and died in Germany; William, who lives in Topeka, Kansas; Henry, who died in childhood; Emma, the widow of Carl Ohlamacher, now residing in Columbus; Louise, the widow of Charles Foust, residing in Monroeville; August P., of this review; Henry, who

lives on the old homestead; and Hermina. Both parents were consistent members of the Lutheran church and passed away in the faith of that denomination.

August P. Horn, who has always resided in this county, attended the district schools of his native township in the acquirement of an education, while the periods of vacation were spent in the work of the fields, learning lessons concerning the value of industry and perseverance. He chose as a life work the occupation to which he had been reared and in 1881 he came to this township and located upon the farm which is now his home but was then the property of his father. He operated this place as a renter for some time and subsequently purchased it, directing his energies toward the cultivation of the fields. In the meantime he has made most extensive improvements upon the land, erecting in 1887 a fine, large residence and commodious and substantial barns and outbuildings, the place being equipped with all the accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. He has carried on his agricultural pursuits along strictly business lines, has ever been most progressive and up-to-date in his methods, and his farm today is one of the finest to be found in the county.

On February 10, 1881, Mr. Horn was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Erf, a daughter of Phillip and Dorothy (Heyman) Erf and a native of Peru township, Huron county, her birth having occurred November 15, 1858. Unto this union were born four children: Dorothy, now a practicing physician of Bellevue, who was graduated from the Homeopathic College of Cleveland and is also a post-graduate of the Philadelphia Hospital; Lewis, attending the Chicago Veterinary College; Ella, who is studying at the Providence Hospital at Sandusky, Ohio, for the profession of a trained nurse; and Mabel, who is at home. All are graduates of Monroeville high school. On May 3, 1906, the wife and mother was called to her final rest, and on the 1st of September, 1909, Mr. Horn was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Louisa C. Winslow, of Ridgefield township, Huron county.

Mr. Horn holds membership with the Knights of the Maccabees and his political allegiance is given to the democratic party, although the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, preferring as he does to concentrate his energies and attention upon his private business interests. He is not remiss, however, in the duties of citizenship, but takes a deep interest in all things which are matters of civic virtue and civic pride. He has spent his entire life in this county, where he has gained a wide acquaintance, and the fact that he is most respected where he is best known indicates that his salient characteristics are in accord with the principles of honorable and upright manhood.

THOMAS LEAK.

Thomas Leak is numbered among Huron county's retired farmers, his success in former years enabling him now to enjoy a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. He is still the owner of a valuable farm property of one hundred and fourteen acres in Ripley township but he leaves the care and cultivation of this to others and makes his home in North Fairfield. He has passed the seven-

ty-first milestone on life's journey, for his birth occurred in Lincolnshire, England, May 8, 1838. He is a son of John and Mary Ann (Westerdale) Leak, in whose family were six sons, the others being John, William, Henry, Edward and George.

Thomas Leak spent the first twelve years of his life in the land of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. They were attracted by the favorable reports which they heard concerning the business opportunities and advantages in the United States and after living for a time in the state of New York they removed to Ohio. Here in the year 1862 Thomas Leak was united in marriage to Miss Apn Atyeo, a daughter of Isaac and Ann (Barrington) Atyeo. The parents had eight children, Ann, John, William, George, James, Charlotte, Isaac and Mary. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Leak has been blessed with two daughters and three sons, Mary Ann, Charles, Edward, William and Alice.

Following his marriage Thomas Leak took up the occupation of farming as a life work and through that avenue of business has provided a comfortable living for those depending upon him. He has manifested a spirit of unfaltering diligence and perseverance in the development and improvement of his land and year after year through the careful cultivation of his fields he won that success which follows persistent, earnest effort. Prospering in his undertakings he became the owner of a farm of one hundred and fourteen acres in Ripley township, which he still owns and which returns him a gratifying annual income. He is well known as a man of financial responsibility, his name ever being an honored one on commercial paper.

In his political views Mr. Leak has always been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and although he has never been an office seeker he has always been loyal in his allegiance to the principles which he espouses. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian church, in which he is serving as deacon and their support of the church is generous and their cooperation in its various activities is a valuable element in its growth.

WILLIAM B. CLAUS.

William B. Claus is the owner of one hundred acres, constituting one of the best farms of Peru township. He is diligent and determined in the prosecution of his business affairs and his close application and energy are bringing to him success which he justly merits. He is a young man but already has made for himself a creditable name in agricultural circles. He was born in Sherman township, Huron county, November 15, 1880, and in both the paternal and maternal lines comes of German ancestry. His parents were Mathias and Josephine (Schank) Claus, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father, who was born October 20, 1834, was a son of Mathias and Mary Claus, who in the year 1852, crossed the Atlantic to America and made their way to Huron county, Ohio, settling in Sherman township, where they purchased forty acres of land. On this place was an old log house, which the father occupied for about five years, when the property was sold and another farm was purchased. On the second place, also in Sher-

man township, the grandparents spent their remaining days. The grandmother was only about forty years of age at the time of her demise, but the grandfather reached the venerable age of eighty-two years. Their family numbered a daughter and three sons: Mrs. Helen Fisher, who is now a widow and resides in Bellevue, Ohio; Martin, a resident farmer of Sherman township; Mathias; and George, who is also living in Sherman township.

Mathias Claus, the father of our subject, was a young lad in his teens when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Germany to the new world. He had attended school in his native land and for a brief period continued his studies in this country, but his time and attention were largely given to farm work after he reached the United States. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits and his labors have been attended with gratifying success. He married Miss Josephine Schank, a daughter of Frank and Helen Schank, of Sherman township, the wedding being celebrated January 7, 1867. Mrs. Claus was born in Germany, February 14, 1846, and came to Huron country with her parents when eighteen years of age, the family home being established in Norwalk township, where her father purchased land and developed a farm. He died there at the age of seventy-five years, but the mother passed away in Germany when forty-two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Claus are still residents of Sherman township and have lived upon one farm for about forty years. He has always been loyal and progressive in his citizenship and in 1864, he espoused the cause of his adopted country, enlisting as a member of Company C, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He joined the regiment at Sandusky and then went to Camp Chase and afterward participated in a number of battles and skirmishes. He was in the engagement at Nashville, Franklin and other places and was mustered out at Nashville in 1865. After the close of the war, he returned home and has since carried on general farming. He has worked diligently and persistently to attain the success which he now enjoys and his honest and upright life have won for him a firm hold on the regard and affections of his fellow townsmen. He has been active in community affairs as a member of the school board and as road supervisor and was called to this office as a candidate of the republican party. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church. Unto him and his wife were born nine children: Frank, who is living at home; Carrie, the wife of Frank A. Heddle, a resident of Monroeville, Ohio, by whom she has four children: Clarice, Loretta, Irene and Walter; Mary, who is the wife of John Rossman, of Monroeville and has two children: Olive and Lucile; Josephine, who is the wife of Ed S. Bick, of Peru township, and has one child, Beatrice; William, of this review; Louise, at home; Joe, who is in Pennsylvania; and Emma and Fred, both at home.

William B. Claus was reared on the old homestead farm in Sherman township, where he remained until twenty-two years of age, since which time he has lived in Peru township. In his youthful days, he enjoyed such sports as engross the attention of the children of the neighborhood and improved the opportunities for acquiring an education in the public schools. He also received ample training at farm work and determined to make the occupation to which he was reared his life work. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he chose Miss Florence Holliday, who was born in Toledo, Ohio, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

William Holliday, who are now residents of Norwalk, Ohio. In their family were six children, the eldest of whom is Mrs. Claus, the others being: William, Carl, Edward, Esther and Wanda. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Clause occurred April 15, 1902, and unto them have been born three children: Calla, Donald and Josephine.

It was in 1905 that Mr. Claus purchased his present farm, on which he has since made a number of substantial improvements. He has here one hundred acres of rich land which is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He studies the demands of the soil, knows what is most needed for the production of various cereals and by the rotation of crops keeps his land in good condition. He has made a number of improvements upon his place, utilizes modern machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and is now successfully engaged in general farming. He belongs to the Catholic church of Peru township and is known as a man of business reliability as well as of enterprise.

CHARLES J. BRANT.

One of the prosperous farmers of Greenfield township, who has taken an active part in local affairs, is Charles J. Brant, who owns the one hundred and thirteen acres on which he lives. He was born in this township, May 16, 1848, and is the son of John K. and Catherine (Glasford) Brant. The former was of eastern birth but was only a young boy when his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jabe Brant, came to Ohio and settled near Readtown. John K. Brant lived in Greenfield township the greater part of his life and became one of its well known and highly respected citizens. He devoted himself to farming, acquired two hundred and eleven acres of land and served as township trustee and as a member of the school board for a number of years. He was a man who advocated progress and the road on which his son's farm lies was cut as the result of his efforts. His wife was born in New York state and was only a child when her parents, John and Cynthia Glasford, removed to Ohio, casting in their lot with the early settlers of Greenfield township. Four children were born to John K. and Catherine Brant: Cynthia, who married Edwin Wiles, both now deceased; Charles J.; Francis, who lives in Kansas; and George, of Norwalk. The life of the wife and mother was brought to a close in 1899, when she was in her seventy-sixth year, and her husband survived her until December 6, 1906, when he was called to his final rest.

Greenfield township has been the home of Charles J. Brant through all his life. At the old log school house of the district he received his training in the fundamentals of English education. It was meager enough equipment for life, even though it was supplemented with good home training in the way of farming. For many years Mr. Brant operated on rented land, but in the fall of 1893 purchased of George Strimple the farm he now occupies. This he has since greatly improved, both as to buildings and as regards the condition of the land itself. He has studied his soil with the intention of obtaining from it the best results, has practiced a scientific rotation of crops, employs the most



MR. AND MRS. C. J. BRANT

up-to-date machinery, and in other ways has kept abreast of the progress that has been made in the methods of agriculture as in other branches of business.

On the 2d of July, 1873, Mr. Brant was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Boice, a daughter of John and Eleanor (Barlow) Boice. The former was a native of Belmont county, Ohio, and was sixty-five years of age when he died in 1879. In his family were four children: Drusilla, deceased; Elisha, deceased; Sarah and William, of this township. Mrs. Brant's mother died when she was but five years old and she went to live with her uncle, George Stetson, of New London, returning in later life to live with her father. She has become the mother of six children: Mary, born May 8, 1874, died March 26, 1886; Ella is the wife of William Gamble, of Chicago, Ohio, and the mother of three children, Lawrence, Dale and Wilma, deceased; Fannie married George Lindsey, of Toledo, and they have four children, Florence, Gladys, Eulalie and Thelma; Ethel is the wife of G. Gamble, of Norwalk, Ohio; Pearl is the wife of Frank Wolfe, of Richmond township; and Catherine married Ross Keesey, also of Richmond township.

A successful farmer and well known, Mr. Brant has on many occasions been the citizens' choice for the several offices at their disposal in the township. Among those he has filled may be mentioned that of road supervisor and of school director, and his administration was distinguished by thought for the public welfare and a commendable spirit of progress.

EDWARD L. CONGER.

Edward L. Conger, a prosperous farmer of Greenfield township, Huron county, and the owner of ninety acres of land on which he lives, was born in this township and is the son of Lewis L. and Isabelle (Lowther) Conger. The father was born September 8, 1824, at Ludlowville, New York, and in 1833 came with his parents to Milan, Ohio, where his father started a mill, there working until 1850, when the family removed to Greenfield township, and twenty years later purchased the farm which was his home until his death and has since been the home of his widow. On his mother's side Mr. Conger is descended from a line of pioneers. His great-grandfather, Henry Lowther, was of Irish birth and came to this country at the time of the rebellion in his home land. He settled in New York state, where he followed the vocation of farming and attained to a prosperity and position among his associates that was above the average. On one occasion, however, he lost a large sum, which was the result of years of toil, when a friend, who had appealed to him for aid, jumped his bond. His son, Edward H. Lowther, was born in New York city in 1800 and was seventeen years of age when he came to Greenfield township, to make it his home. He attained considerable local prominence, was known as Captain Lowther from his being a captain of the militia, and held several offices in the township. His wife, who survived him but a year, was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, but came to Ohio when the fields were covered with forests and Indians were seen almost daily. She died in 1887, after having brought into the world a family of seven children: Thomas, deceased;

Mariette, the widow of Ira Watterman; Isabelle, the mother of our subject; Sarah, the widow of William Graham; Helen, the deceased wife of Barnett Rowe; and James. To Mr. and Mrs. Conger were born four children: Edward L.; Halsy, who died at the age of five months; Julia, the deceased wife of Charles Palmer and the mother of two children, Florence and Charles; and Lewis, who married Miss Ada Daly, of this township, and has one child, Frances J. Mr. Conger died November 11, 1899, but his widow still lives and conducts the farm he had bought.

Greenfield township has been the home of Edward L. Conger during all his life. He was born a deaf and dumb mute and attended the school for mutes at Columbus. While there he learned the trade of a shoemaker but has never worked at that occupation, having followed agriculture instead. Along this line he has been very successful, his fields producing as abundantly and the buildings being in as good repair as if he were not handicapped in the battle of life, and rightly so, for it is industry and hard work that counts, thus being able to surmount obstacles that might otherwise overwhelm one.

In 1871, while in school in Columbus, Mr. Conger met Miss Nellie Hall, also a pupil at the mutes' institution and a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Hall, of South Lebanon, Pennsylvania. On the 8th of May, 1879, at her home, was read the service that made the two young people man and wife in the eyes of the law. Their union has been blessed with two children: Mary Bell, born May 13, 1883, and Ray, born August 30, 1887.

Mr. Conger is a member of St. Paul's Episcopal church and all his life and actions are ordered by what he believes to be the right and in accord with the teachings of his religion. He is a fine man, imbued with many noble traits of character, and those who know him hold him in high regard.

CALVIN C. BROOKS.

Calvin C. Brooks, successful because of his unfaltering determination and indefatigable industry, now lives on a farm of eighty-eight acres in Peru township, from which property he derives his substantial annual income. He is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Greenfield township on the 20th of April, 1860. His parents were William and Sophronia (Parsons) Brooks. The father, who was born in Vermont in 1809, came to Ohio with his parents when a young man and settled about three miles north of Chicago Junction. There he developed a good farm property, owning at one time about three hundred acres of land. His wife was a native of the state of New York and she, too, came with her parents to Huron county, the family home being established in Greenfield township. The death of William Brooks occurred in 1869, when he was sixty years of age, and his widow, surviving him for about thirty-five years, died in the fall of 1904. They were the parents of nine children: Francis L., who is now living in Fayette county, Pennsylvania; Mortimer, a resident of Oklahoma; Darwin, living at Steuben, Ohio; Mrs. Lucy France, who is a widow now located at Oklahoma; Parsons, deceased; Augustine, residing in Peru township; Calvin C.; Kate, the

wife of Samuel Hall, whose home is in North Fairfield, Ohio; and one who died in infancy.

Calvin C. Brooks was reared in Greenfield township to the age of twenty-nine years and in his youthful days attended the district schools, his time being divided between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the home farm. Since putting aside his text-books his entire time has been devoted to general farming. He went to Wisconsin a number of years ago and took up one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he lived for five years, when he sold that property. He also worked at Spokane Falls, Washington, and after a brief sojourn on the Pacific coast he returned to Ohio and purchased his present farm from George Barman. He has since made a number of improvements on the property and is busily engaged in the work of general farming, transforming the place into rich and productive fields, from which he annually gathers good harvests.

Mr. Brooks married Miss Kathryn Sysel, a daughter of James and Kathryn (Extine) Sysel, natives of Bohemia. This marriage was celebrated February 20, 1895, and unto them have been born seven children: Blanch, William, Ralph, May, Gladys, Elsie and Grace. Of this family all are yet living with the exception of Elsie and Blanch. Mrs. Brooks was born in Bohemia and when fourteen years of age came to this country with some relatives, her parents always remaining in their native land. Her father is still living there at the age of eighty years, but the mother died June 28, 1895. They were the parents of seven children: James, who is now in Minnesota; Mary, a resident of Bohemia; Anna, who is also in Minnesota; Jacob, deceased; Kathryn, now Mrs. Brooks; and George and Joseph, both of whom are in Bohemia. By a former marriage Mr. Brooks had a daughter, Elizabeth Bell, who is now the wife of Fred Porter and lives in Waseon, Ohio. They have two children, Sylvester and Daniel. By her former marriage Mrs. Brooks had two daughters, Jennie and Agnes, who are now living with our subject.

Mr. Brooks is interested in the cause of education and has served as school director for a number of years, doing all in his power to advance the cause of public instruction. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, which finds in him a stalwart champion, but he does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs.

MARTIN ELLIS.

One of the men who has made a success of general farming in Greenwich township, is Martin Ellis, a member of one of the pioneer families of Ohio. He is the son of John and Rachel (Rickard) Ellis, whose parents were originally residents of Onondaga county, New York, and came to Mansfield, Ohio, in the early pioneer days, where the father followed the carpenter's trade for some years. At length, having accumulated the necessary funds, he bought one hundred acres in Greenwich township, Huron county, and took up the active life of the general farmer of that day. Game was very plentiful in the earlier years of his residence here and John Ellis secured many a deer with his ever present rifle. Although he

had but twenty-five cents in cash and a small chest of carpenter's tools when he arrived in Ohio, before his death he became the owner of fully six hundred acres of Huron county land, well stocked and improved. Seven of the eight children of this pioneer family grew to maturity: Sidney, Thirsa, John R., Martin, Leona, Pauline, Hiram and Sarah, but the only ones now living are Martin, Pauline and Sarah. In March, 1890, at the age of seventy-three, the father, noted for his great moral and physical courage, and a respected participator in public affairs, was laid away by the side of the mother, who had died in 1887 and was buried in Ripley cemetery.

Martin Ellis was born on the old homestead in Greenwich township, May 13, 1847, and secured his education in the district schools of that township. He served the usual apprenticeship of the farmer lad until he was twenty, when he started out in life for himself. On December 28, 1871, was celebrated his marriage to Mary E. Stotts, who was the daughter of James and Eliza (Titus) Stotts, of Ripley township. To Mr. and Mrs. Ellis have been born two sons: James H., deceased, and Ray.

Mr. Ellis settled on his own land soon after marriage and at present holds the title to one hundred and twenty acres of well tilled, well improved and well stocked farm land. He does not need to specialize, as all of the varied interests of the general farmer have succeeded under his hand. He has been amply aided by his son, Ray, who bids fair to make as good a farmer as his parent. He was married September 1, 1909, to Miss Lotha McCarty, a daughter of George and Mary (Swope) McCarty of Greenwich township. He is a member of Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., and also a member of the Knights of the Maccabees.

The democratic party claims Mr. Ellis' allegiance, and he has been consistently active in public affairs, serving as road overseer and member of the board of education. While not a member of any church, he yet supports the cause of religion, and is always interested in all matters which are for the benefit of the race. He is referred to as one of the best farmers of the county and is universally respected for his progressiveness.

OTTO BOEHLER.

An excellent farm of one hundred and forty-two acres in Lyme township, this county, pays tribute to the care and labor of Otto Boehler, who in his business interests is meeting with well merited success. He was born in Peru township, Huron county, September 5, 1869, a son of Phillip and Marguerita (Seibel) Boehler, natives of Germany. The former, who was born November 7, 1824, arrived in the United States in 1848 and settled in Huron county, Ohio, being employed in Peru township for about three years. He subsequently owned property in Lyme township, which he sold, and later purchased a farm in Sherman township, which in turn he disposed of and secured a farm in Peru township. At the time of his death, which occurred May 3, 1897, in Monroeville, Ridgfield township, he was recognized as an extensive landowner. He was first married to Miss Mary Seibel, a native of Germany, who was born April 1, 1831, and after her death he was

united in marriage to Miss Jeanetta Knoble. The children of the first union were William, Henry, Phillip, Otto, Minnie and Louise, all of whom still survive.

To the district schools of Peru township and also of Monroeville, Ridgefield township, Otto Boehler is indebted for his education, and he also learned many practical and valuable lessons while assisting in the work of the farm during the periods of vacation. He remained at home until 1890, when he began working for G. G. Horn, with whom he was connected for two years. He then began business on his own account, taking charge of the farm upon which he now resides. It was given to him by his father who had, in 1871, purchased the tract from a Mr. Smith. It is an excellent farm of one hundred and forty-two acres, upon which Mr. Boehler has placed many improvements. He is industrious, enterprising and persevering, and his good management of his business interests is bringing him substantial success.

On the 7th of January, 1892, Mr. Boehler was united in marriage to Miss Emma Horn, a daughter of Philip and Catherine (Seel) Horn, old German settlers of this county. She is a native of Lyme township, born March 18, 1871, and by her marriage became the mother of three children: Clarence, born October 25, 1892; Alma, born June 11, 1896; and Adolph, born November 20, 1898. The family is still unbroken by the hand of death, and all are yet at home.

The religious faith of Mr. Boehler is indicated in his membership in the Lutheran church, while fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World Camp, No. 40. He has never sought to figure in a public light, yet his devotion to the public welfare is unquestioned, arising as it does from a sincere desire for the substantial and permanent growth of the community. Honest and upright in all of his business dealings, he has won the respect and good will of his fellowmen, while his sterling qualities have gained for him a wide circle of warm friends.

BENJAMIN F. BECK.

The rich farming land of Huron county yields ready response to the care and labors of the agriculturist and if the farmer is wise and prudent he may in the course of years gain a substantial competence as the direct result of his labors. Such has been the history of Benjamin F. Beck, who is now living in North Fairfield but in former years was closely associated with general farming. He started upon the journey of life in 1851, his birth having occurred in New Haven township, Huron county. His parents were Jacob and Mary (Berlin) Beck, who were numbered among the pioneer residents of the county, settling here when the work of progress and development seemed scarcely begun. The Becks have always been thrifty people and Benjamin Beck was reared to habits of perseverance, industry and economy. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood and through the periods of vacation he worked in the fields as he assisted in the operations of the home farm. He was thus well qualified to take charge of a farm of his own when he started out in life for himself.

As companion and helpmate for life's journey Mr. Beck chose Miss Hulda Sothern, a daughter of James P. and Mary Elizabeth (Stiles) Sothern. Her peo-

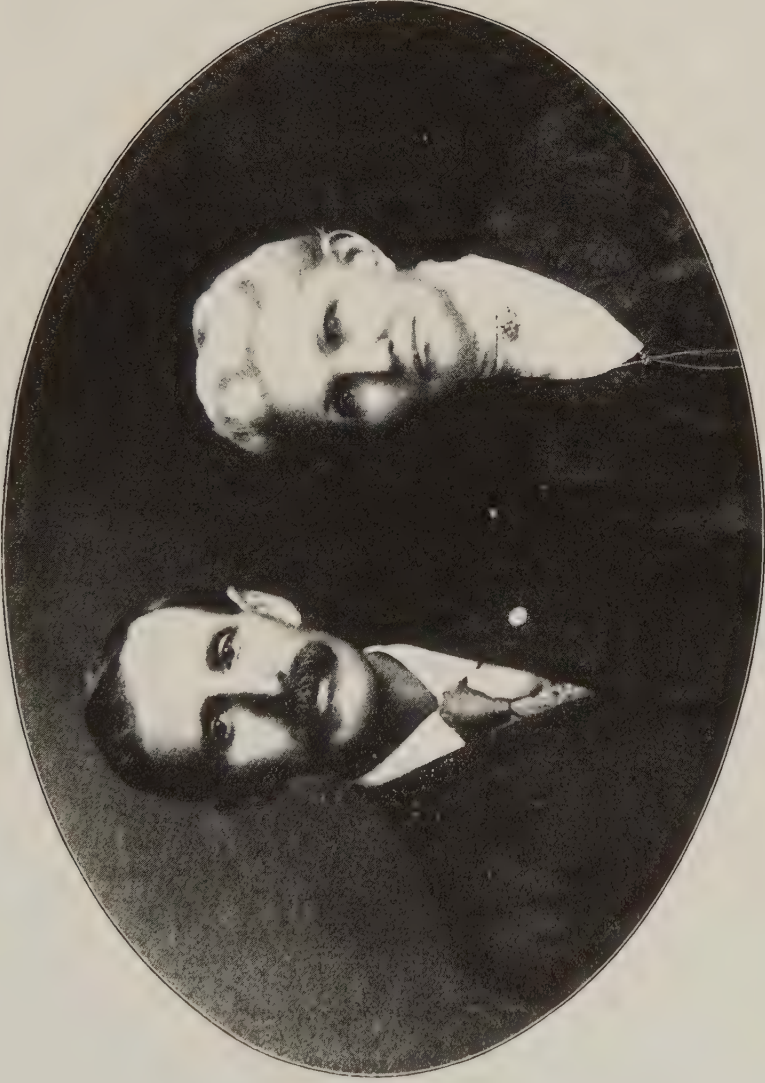
ple, too, arrived in Huron county in pioneer times and her father was active in the early development of this part of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Beck began their domestic life upon a farm and as the years passed Mr. Beck diligently and persistently carried on his work. He studied the matter of rotating crops, came to know the properties of the soil and what was needed for the production of different cereals. His farm work was thus intelligently directed and brought to him the prosperity which now enables him to live retired.

WILLIAM S. RUGGLES.

William S. Ruggles, who is the owner of a sawmill and one hundred and thirty-two acres of land in Peru township, on which he lives, was born on this farm, March 31, 1853. He is a son of George W. and Mary Elizabeth (Snyder) Ruggles. His grandparents, Joseph and Mary Ruggles, came to Huron county from the state of New York, traveling overland with a yoke of oxen in 1815, bringing with them the several children who had been born unto them in the east. They resided about a half mile east of the place on which William S. Ruggles now makes his home, and for a few years they lived in a little barn on the Henry Adams farm, which they converted into a rude dwelling, occupying it until Joseph Ruggles purchased the place which is now the home of our subject. It was a tract of timberland when it came into his possession but he at once began to clear away the trees and the brush and, in the midst of the forest, built a log house. It was about 1817 that he established his home there and as time passed he vigorously prosecuted the work of the farm, transforming the tract of forest land into richly cultivated fields. Subsequently he built and operated the first cidermill in the county and was closely associated with the work of early development and improvement. He died in 1849 at the age of sixty-nine years, while his wife passed away in 1850.

George W. Ruggles, the father, also lived in Peru township and for many years made his home above the old cidermill. In the early days he pursued his studies in one of the log schools of the township wherein but a few branches of learning were taught. Although his educational opportunities were limited his training in farm work was not meager and throughout his entire life he continued to actively till the soil. His lack of early educational advantages was obviated by the fact that he remained throughout his entire life a great reader and thus added continuously to his knowledge. His wife was born in Milan, Ohio, a daughter of William and Mary (Norris) Snyder, who were early settlers of Huron country, coming to Ohio from Pennsylvania. The death of Mrs. Ruggles occurred July 1, 1905. She was the mother of five children, namely: Mary B., the wife of James Clifford of Findlay, Ohio; William S., of this review; Walter and Charles, both deceased; and Loretta E., the wife of Frank Schlagater, of Bronson township.

William S. Ruggles has always lived upon the home place, the district being known as Ruggles Corners. He attended the schools of the neighborhood in his early days and throughout his entire life has carried on general farming and



MR. AND MRS. W. S. RUGGLES

has also operated a sawmill for about twenty years. He married Miss Alice J. Owen, a daughter of Lafayette and Mary J. (Clark) Owen, of Greenfield township, the wedding being celebrated on the 30th of August, 1876. Mrs. Ruggles was born in Greenfield township, where her parents lived until they were called to their final rest. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children: J. C., whose birth occurred February 2, 1885, and who married Ethel Baxter, their home being now in Peru township; and Harry, who was born February 19, 1889, and is still under the parental roof.

As he prospered in his undertakings William S. Ruggles purchased the old homestead from his father and has since made many substantial improvements upon the place. He has built a fine barn, has remodeled the house and has added all of the accessories and conveniences known to the model farm of the twentieth century. In 1892 the sawmill which he owned near his home was destroyed by fire and he then built a steam sawmill on his farm, which he operated until 1902. In that year he sold out and two years later installed a gasoline engine and again entered the business of sawing lumber, which proves a profitable source of revenue to him. His fields, too, are carefully cultivated and return rich crops, which find a ready sale on the market.

Mr. Ruggles has been somewhat prominent in community affairs. He served as township trustee for five years, having been elected on the republican ticket by a majority of twenty-nine in a township which usually gives over one hundred democratic majority, his election, therefore, plainly indicating his personal popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him. He has also served as school director and as road supervisor, and he withholds his cooperation from no measure or movement which he deems essential to the public good. He is a trustee of the Universalist church of Peru township and for twenty years has been a member of the Royal Arcanum of Norwalk. He represents one of the oldest families of the county, the name of Ruggles having ever stood in this community for progressive citizenship and for enterprise in business. The record of William S. Ruggles is in harmony with that of the others of the name and he is now numbered among the representative and valued citizens of Huron county.

LOUIS P. HEYMAN.

Louis P. Heyman, who has but recently retired from the active cultivation of the hundred and forty-five acres he owns in Lyme township, Huron county, was born on this farm, March 10, 1857, a son of John P. and Jeanette (Scheide) Heyman. Both parents were born in Germany, the father July 9, 1833, the mother April 19, 1837, but both came to this country so early in life that they are numbered among the pioneers of this county. The mother was but fifteen when she came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Scheide, to Peru township. John P. Heyman came to America in 1848, with his father, settling at Hunts Corners, Ohio, where his brother Philip had located the year previous and had

bought about fifty-five acres of land. There the old people died, the grandfather in 1881, though not until after he had made a name for himself in the community, for he and his two sons, John and Philip, together owned about three hundred acres and were among those who contributed largely, both in gifts of land and money, to the establishment of the Reformed church. In fact the edifice was erected on part of the fifty-five acres which Philip had bought on coming to this county.

John P. Heyman was a prominent farmer in his locality. He was also interested in the Heyman Milling Company, of Monroeville, and as a school director and road superintendent served the people well for a long term of years. Likewise he was prominent in the Reformed church he had helped to build, having been an elder for a number of years and a deacon at the time of his death. When his earthly course was done, on the 19th of October, 1899, he was accounted one of the most prosperous farmers in his locality, being possessed of about four hundred acres. In April, 1856, he married Miss Jeanette Scheide, who bore him nine children: Lewis P.; Frank, deceased; F. D.; William O.; Jennie, deceased; Julia, the wife of William Kern; Flora, the wife of Calvin Heyman; Lillian, who married James Clinton; and one who died in infancy.

Louis P. Heyman has always lived in Lyme township. He attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education and worked on the farm with his father during his youth. In 1898 he bought the place from his father, making it his own home to the present time. Since his acquisition of the property he has made many extensive improvements, one of them being the erection of a large and handsome residence. Although he has devoted himself with such diligence to the demands of his farm and is accounted one of the most successful agriculturists of this township, he has yet found time to serve the people as justice of the peace for a period of ten years, as constable, besides filling some other minor offices. He is vice-president and a director of the Heyman Milling Company, of Monroeville, and also a director of the Sherman Gas & Oil Company. Being very fond of good horses, one of his chief delights is in driving.

On the 18th of November, 1885, Mr. Heyman was married to Miss Elizabeth Hartman, a daughter of George and Cornelia (Mook) Hartman, of Bellevue, Ohio. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, the father born in 1828, the mother in 1831, and they were among the early settlers here, arriving long before anything approaching the present conveniences of travel came into vogue the journey being made from their old home to Black Swamp, Sandusky county, in an ox cart. Mr. Hartman died in 1900, and his wife survived him but two years. In their family were three children, Isabelle, Frank and Elizabeth. The last named, who is now Mrs. Heyman, was graduated from the Bellevue high school and for several years successfully engaged in teaching. She and her husband still take an active interest in educational affairs and are giving their children the best possible advantages along that line, while Mr. Heyman is also doing effective service as a member of the board of education. They have two daughters, Mabel and Ruth, and the former is a graduate of the Bellevue high school and also of Heidelberg University at Tiffin, Ohio, of the class of 1908, receiving the degree of L. B. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Heyman were also born two sons, but Floyd, who was born April 25, 1891, died on the 21st of the following August;

and Gordon, born November 11, 1898, died March 27, 1899. They now have an adopted son.

Mr. Heyman is prominent in all the work of the Reformed church, of which he has been an elder and trustee for a number of years and his wife is also an active church worker, serving as assistant superintendent of the Sunday school and devoting some time every week to instructing a class in Bible study. In short, Mr. Heyman and his family are well and favorably known. He has now laid aside the active duties of life, but the record of his past, both as a private citizen and as a servant of the people, is an enviable one.

CHARLES H. WHEATON.

A history of Norwalk township would not be complete without mention of Charles H. Wheaton, who for many years has been known as one of the best judges and successful buyers of stock in Huron county. He was born in England on the 5th of February, 1840, and is a son of Daniel Wheaton, who came to America in the early '50s and first took up his residence in Monroeville, while a few months later he removed to Norwalk. He was a butcher by occupation, and after his arrival in Norwalk he rented a building of Lester Clark, where he started in the meat business, continuing in this line of activity for many years, when the business was taken charge of by his two sons, Charles and Dennis. He was known as one of the best judges of stock, not only in England, but also in this country. Ere coming to America he had conducted a market in Cambridge College Place, where he engaged principally in supplying the colleges. He was eminently a business man, possessing keen sagacity and good management, and he became identified with various enterprises, all of which became factors in his subsequent success. About a year after his arrival in Norwalk he purchased the farm of ninety-six acres upon which our subject now resides, this property having been in the family since 1852. Later he purchased the De Walt property, where Harkness and surrounding buildings now stand, including the row of brick cottages extending to Seminary street. He bought from Mr. Underhill the old American Hotel property, which site is now covered by the three stores commencing at Frazier's and extending east. This property is now owned by the estate. He also invested in three stores in Huron, which are now in the possession of his son Dennis E. Wheaton. He was a member of the Baptist church and affiliated with the democratic party, and was considered one of the alert and progressive citizens of his community. He passed away in 1898, leaving a very handsome estate.

Charles H. Wheaton, whose name introduces this review, was a lad of eleven years when he accompanied his father to the United States, and his education, which was begun in England, was completed in this country. He continued under the parental roof until the year 1861, when, in response to President Lincoln's call for troops, he enlisted for three months' service as a member of Captain Sawyer's independent company organized under the laws of the state of Ohio. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned home and, in connection with his brother, Dennis E. Wheaton, took charge of his father's meat business, which

they carried on for many years, or until the block was destroyed by fire. The brothers then went to Cleveland, where they were engaged in a similar enterprise for seventeen years, and at the end of that time our subject returned to the old homestead to take care of his father and his father's estate. The fine brick house which the latter erected still stands upon the place and is in excellent condition. Mr. Wheaton is engaged in the stock business and, like his father, is one of the best judges and one of the most successful buyers of stock in Huron county. He has purchased cattle since he was a boy of fourteen years and has the reputation of having bought more stock than any other buyer in this county. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which his industry and energy, have been salient characteristics. While engaged in the meat business he was recognized as one of the leading men in that line, and that he prospered and won a goodly amount of success is indicated by the handsome competence which he has acquired as the result of well directed energy.

In November, 1860, Mr. Wheaton was united in marriage to Miss Anna Lydia Hoyt, who was born in March, 1834, a daughter of Acrebeach Hoyt. Unto this union have been born the following children: Minnie, who wedded George Crumm and later married Fred Smies; Dora, the wife of Edgar Lee; and Mary, the wife of Walter E. Bateles, by whom she has two children, Elmer Darwin and Mary Mehn. In politics Mr. Wheaton is independent, reserving the right to vote for the men and measures which, in his estimation, are best adapted to conserve the public good. Although born across the water, Mr. Wheaton is as loyal to the interests of his adopted country as any American-born citizen, and he has gained high rank among the representative men of Norwalk township, not only by reason of the gratifying degree of success which he has attained but also because of his honorable manhood and true personal worth.

HYATT TRAVIS.

Hyatt Travis, now living retired from the duties of business life, has for many years been actively and helpfully interested in the public affairs of Greenwich township and is, moreover, a well known and prominent figure in the political circles of his community. He was born on the 10th of August, 1839, in New York city, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Hyatt) Travis, and remained in his native city until fourteen years of age, when he accompanied the family on their removal to New Rochelle, New York. They remained there for one year, when the father took the family to Yorktown, New York, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for eight years.

The education of Hyatt Travis had been commenced in the public schools of New York city and after the removal of the family from that city he pursued a course of study for several terms in the district schools, remaining with his parents until 1860. In December of that year he came to Greenwich, where his brother Oscar had arrived six years previously, while the parents and the remaining members of the family followed him in 1862. On reaching this city he associated with his brother in the operation of a farm until the following September

when, in response to his country's call for troops, he enlisted as a member of Company I, Third Regiment of Ohio Cavalry for three years. He served two years, however, when he veteranized and continued with the same company and regiment until the close of the war, his entire service covering a period of three years and nine months, being mustered out in August, 1865. During this time he saw much hard service under General Thomas, General Wood and later under General Wilson. He participated in many of the hotly contested battles of the war, in the meantime having two horses shot from under him. The first occasion was just after the battle of Stone River while engaged with his company in a slight skirmish. His horse was killed and he was taken prisoner and sent to Libby prison at Richmond, Virginia. After three weeks spent in that place he was paroled and sent home, where he remained until exchanged about four months later, when he returned to his regiment. He again had a horse shot from under him during the battle of Chickamauga but on this occasion escaped capture. Throughout his entire service, during which time he was often in the thickest of the fight, he was never wounded although he returned home very much broken in health.

After the close of the war he entered the service of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company as brakeman but severed his connection therewith after eleven months, owing to the state of his health. He was then married in 1868, after which he engaged in farming in Greenwich township for eight years. At the expiration of this period, however, he was compelled to give up agricultural pursuits, as his health would no longer permit of the strenuous duties that devolved upon him in that connection. He then came to Greenwich and became identified with general mercantile interests, being thus engaged for nearly four years. Again he attempted farming but found that the state of his health had not improved and was once more compelled to give up that pursuit. Consequently he sold his farm and returned to Greenwich, where he has since lived practically retired.

He has, however, been very active in public affairs, becoming well known in the political circles of the community, while since his retirement from business life he has been almost continuously before the public in an official capacity. He votes with the republican party and for several terms served as village and township treasurer. Something of his personal popularity was shown in the fact that he was elected mayor of his town and served as chief executive for two terms. He is now acting as justice of the peace, which position he has filled for several years, while from 1889 until 1893 he was postmaster of Greenwich. He has been clerk and also president of the school board, the cause of education at all times finding in him a stalwart champion. Active in the interests of his party, he has several times acted as a delegate to various conventions and has frequently been a member of the county central committee, being a prominent figure in the party councils. His career as a public official has ever been an exemplary one, performing his duties in every instance in a manner that gained for him the favorable commendation and the endorsement of his constituents. His position has never been an equivocal one for he has ever stood on the side of truth and right in all things.

On the 1st of September, 1868, Mr. Travis was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Hoag, a daughter of Jesse and Mary (Watson) Hoag, the former a prom-

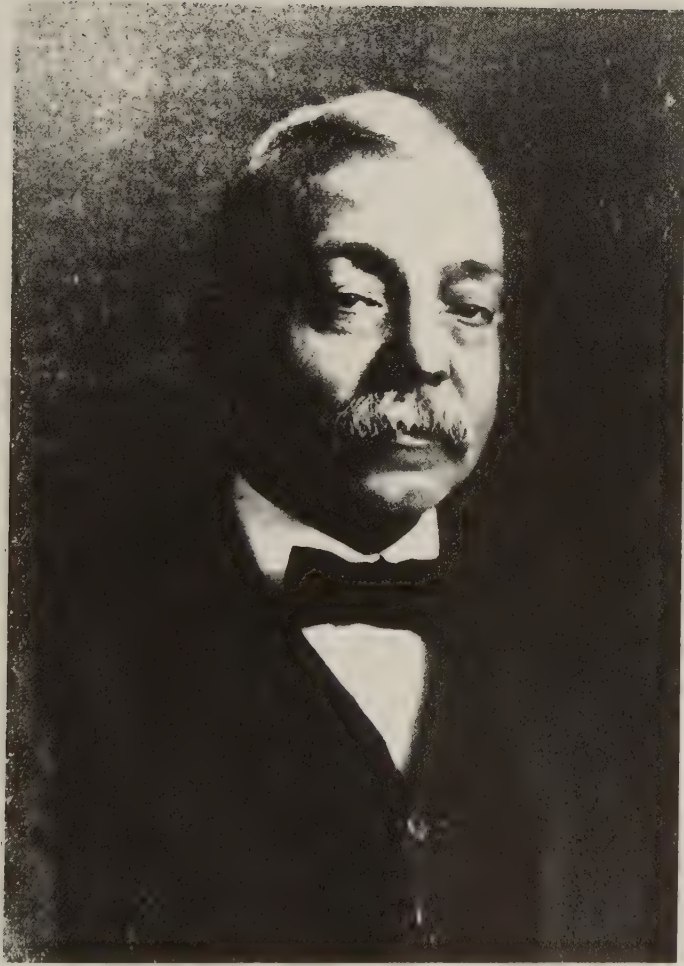
inent agriculturist of Greenwich township. Unto this union have been born seven children, namely: Ella, the wife of Frederick Miller; George, deceased; William; Charles, who has also passed away; Ira J.; Elmer, residing in Youngstown; and Hazel.

The family, although not members, attend the Methodist Episcopal church, while Mr. Travis maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Greenwich Post, No. 279, G. A. R., in which he has filled all of the offices. He has also been a delegate several times to the state encampments of this organization. He has ever been an advocate of public improvement and exerts his influence toward the adoption of all those measures which have for their object the welfare and upbuilding of the community. He has now completed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten and in the evening of life he enjoys the full respect and confidence of all who know him.

W. B. KEEFER.

W. B. Keefer is numbered among the men to whom Chicago Junction owes its growth, its development and its prosperity. His efforts have been of a practical nature, far-reaching and beneficial. He acted as the first postmaster of the new town and since that time has been most closely associated with its progress and improvement, figuring prominently now in its business circles as a representative of its banking interests. His birth occurred in Greenfield township, Huron county, September 9, 1848. His father, Walter Keefer, was a native of New York and in 1834 removed westward to Sandusky county, Ohio, residing in the vicinity of Bellevue, for a number of years. He afterward came to Huron county, but in a short time returned to Erie county, taking up his abode there in 1849. Five years later—in 1854—he again came to Huron county and settled on a farm one-half mile from Chicago Junction, where he made his home until his death which occurred in 1896, when he was eighty-six years of age. In politics, he was a stanch republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party and he was a splendid type of the pioneer citizen who recognizes and utilizes the opportunities for the county's development as well as for the attainment of his own success. His wife bore the maiden name of Lydia Wiles and was a representative of a family that was established in Sandusky county, at an early epoch in its development. Later, her father, Storey Wiles, removed with his wife and children to Huron county, taking up his abode north of Chicago Junction, where he spent his remaining days, his death there occurring. Unto the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Keefer, there were born four sons and one daughter, who are yet living—all residents of Huron county—and three sons who died in infancy.

At the usual age, W. B. Keefer began his education as a pupil in the common schools and later, he continued his studies in Norwalk, being thus well qualified for life's practical and responsible duties. After putting aside his textbooks, he learned telegraphy and was employed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company for two and a half years. In 1875, when the subject of estab-



W. B. KEEFER

lishing a postoffice was under discussion he wrote to the postmaster general, urging the claims of this village and suggesting the name of Chicago for the new office. His suggestion was acted upon and he was appointed the first postmaster of the new town, entering upon his duties in 1875. He continued to fill the office until 1888 and during that time he opened and carried on a jewelry store. In the latter year, realizing the possibilities for business development here, he opened a private bank which he conducted successfully until 1905. It was then reorganized as a state bank under the name of the Commercial Bank Company, of which Mr. Keefer was elected president, with E. W. Severnace as vice-president; W. K. Southard, cashier and W. M. Griffin, assistant cashier. Mr. Keefer now devotes his entire time to the bank. A general banking business is conducted and he has familiarized himself with every department of the work and makes the enterprise one of success. It has enjoyed a continuous growth from the beginning and well merits the liberal patronage which is accorded it.

In 1883, Mr. Keefer completed his arrangements for having a home of his own in his marriage to Miss Eva L. Shepard, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, who in her girlhood days accompanied her parents, Israel and Nancy Shepard, on their removal to Hillsdale, Michigan. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Keefer was born a son, W. Dale, whose birth occurred July 9, 1890, and who died June 6, 1894. Mr. Keefer is well known in Masonic circles, taking the degrees of the lodge, chapter and commandery. His life record may well constitute an example and a source of inspiration to his fellowmen. He has made for himself a splendid name by reason of his industry and integrity, which have brought him success and the respect of his fellow citizens. The town of Chicago Junction is largely a monument to his business ability and enterprising spirit for, with several associates, he has been closely identified with its upbuilding and progress from the outset to the present time.

JACOB SCHREINER.

Jacob Schreiner, a general farmer and stockman of Greenfield township, Huron county, owns the one hundred acres of land on which he lives and fifty-six acres in another part of the township. He was born in Seneca county, Ohio, October 19, 1862, and is the son of Michael and Mary (Koby) Schreiner, both of whom are of German birth. Michael Schreiner was fourteen when he went to Seneca county to fight the battle of life for himself. In the company of a few friends he worked around for different farmers in Seneca county for some time and then sent for his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schreiner, to come to the new world and make their home. This they did and passed the remainder of their days in the county to which their son had become attached. Michael Schreiner, Jr., always followed farming in Center township, in Seneca county, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres of land. Of late years he has retired from the active pursuits and at the age of seventy-seven enjoys the comforts and rest he so well deserves at the home of his daughter in Norwalk. He was prominent in local af-

fairs, held several township offices and has ever been a devoted adherent of the Catholic religion. His wife was one year old when her parents removed to Seneca county, where she continued to live all her life, dying there in 1906 at the age of sixty-two. She was a dutiful wife and a mother of the following children: Joseph, who lives at Chicago Junction, Ohio; Mary, who married Anthony Scheibley of Seneca county; Jacob, of this review; Peter, a resident of Fostoria, Ohio; Addie, deceased; Rose, the wife of Tony Hasselbauch, of Bellevue, Ohio; Philomina, the wife of Louis Schwartz, a prominent business man of Chicago, Ohio; Elizabeth, the widow of Andrew Nejedly; Martin, who lives at Akron, Ohio; Catherine, the wife of Lewis Steinmetz, of Fostoria, Ohio; Thresia, who married Andrew Adelman, of Norwalk, Ohio; Louisa, the wife of William Huffman, of Tiffin, Ohio; and Aggie, who married a Mr. Smith of Iowa. Two children died in infancy.

Jacob Schreiner lived in Seneca county until 1884, and received his education in the schools there. He early devoted himself to farming and until he was twenty-two years of age continued in that occupation, after which he was engaged in the hotel business at Bellevue, Fostoria, Zanesville and Chicago Junction. His operations met with success but in the spring of 1907 he sold his interests in the hotel and cafe at Chicago Junction and came to Greenfield township, Huron county, where he purchased from Jennie Wheeler his present farm. Since he has assumed possession of this land he has greatly improved it, adding many modern conveniences to his fine house, making the barns more up-to-date and instituting many changes in the methods of farming which will increase the productiveness of the soil. His farm is well stocked with all things necessary for the prosecution of a successful business, and his animals are of the finest.

Mr. Schreiner has been married twice, his first union being with Miss Josephine Ball, and they had three children: Mary, Peter, deceased; and William. Mrs. Josephine Schreiner was divorced, and Mr. Schreiner afterward married Mrs. Flora Huntington, who by her former marriage had one daughter, Sadie, now the wife of William G. Ramsey, by whom she has a son, Russell Jacob. Mrs. Schreiner is a daughter of Emanuel F. and Sarah (Thompson) Grames, of Chicago Junction, who were old settlers of this county but are now deceased. They had five children who lived to maturity: Frank, William, Flora, Henry and Minnie, and others who did not survive the period of infancy. In politics Mr. Schreiner gives his support to the democratic party and in religious matters to the Catholic church of Chicago Junction. Though so recently a citizen of Greenfield township, he bids fair to be one of her prosperous farmers and one of her most public-spirited men.

ADOLF P. ERF.

Adolf P. Erf, successfully engaged in agriculture in Lyme township, Huron county, comes from an old and prominent family of this county. He was born upon the farm which is now his home June 22, 1867, a son of Anthony and Marie (Maurer) Erf. He comes of German and Swiss lineage, his father having been born in Freien Dietz, Germany, June 20, 1843, while his mother was a native of

Switzerland. The paternal grandparents of our subject, Jacob and Katherine Erf, sailed for the new world from Germany about 1859, and, coming direct to Ohio, settled in this county, casting in their lot with the pioneer settlers of this district and aiding in reclaiming the wild land for agricultural purposes. Mr. Erf at once started to clear the land, built a dwelling for his family, and here he and his wife resided until they were called to their final rest.

Their son Anthony Erf, the father of our subject, was sixteen years of age when he accompanied his parents on their journey to the United States and was thus early identified with the work of improvement and cultivation which was going on at that time in the section of Ohio where they settled. He assisted his father in establishing a home here, where the remaining years of his life were spent, for after his father's demise he took charge of the home farm and continued the work of improvement. He became a well known and respected citizen of this county, having served for several terms as trustee of Lyme township. He was a faithful and consistent member of the Evangelical church of Monroeville, honorable and upright in his relations with his fellowmen. He met his death by drowning in a creek near his place while returning home after attending to a little matter of business. When he failed to appear at his home a search was made for him and his body found several days later. He had fallen into the water and it was thought that, owing to an injury to one of his arms, which he had sustained shortly before, he was unable to rescue himself, after having vainly attempted to do so—a fact which was manifest by certain marks left on the bank where he had endeavored to pull himself out of the water. He had gone to pay a threshing bill and still had ten dollars in his pocket after paying the bill. His wife had previously passed away in 1871, leaving, besides her husband, five children, Edward, William, Gustave, Adolf and Albert, the last named having since passed away. After the death of his first wife Mr. Erf was again married, his second union being with Miss Minnie Frenz, who, by her marriage, became the mother of five children, Hiram, Otto, George, Amelia and Louise.

On the old homestead which had been the property of his grandfather, Adolf P. Erf was reared amid the scenes and environment of rural life, devoting the days of his boyhood and youth to the acquirement of an education as a pupil of the district schools of Lyme township and of Monroeville. He early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the farm lad and as the years passed and his strength increased he aided more and more fully in the work of the fields, becoming familiar with the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting. He remained at home until twenty-six years of age when, on the 28th of December, 1894, he was united in marriage to Miss Emma Beiler, a daughter of Henry and Philibina Beiler.

Mr. and Mrs. Erf began their domestic life in Richfield township, this county, where they resided for five years on a farm of sixty acres near Bellevue, which Mr. Erf purchased and operated. He then sold this property and in 1906 bought from the estate his present farm, which was a part of the original homestead. He later acquired forty additional acres from Robert Truman, his holdings now aggregating one hundred and sixty-five acres, fourteen acres of which are located in Sherman township. He has directed his energies to the improvement of this place and

his good management and modern methods have combined to make of it an excellent farm, returning to him abundant crops.

As the years came and went three children were added to the household of Mr. and Mrs. Erf, but the first two died in infancy. The third and only surviving member is Olga, born November 20, 1901, who is the light and life of the home. Mr. Erf is connected with the Lutheran church of Pontiac and at all times holds to high and manly principles. He has been most successful in his agricultural pursuits, this success being but the visible evidence of well directed energies and good judgment combined with strict business integrity. Having passed his entire life in this district, he has become widely known throughout the county, and that he is most respected and honored where he is best known is indicative of the fact that at all times his salient characteristics are such as win esteem, trust and good will from all classes.

WILLIAM GRAHAM.

Through the years of an active and useful life William Graham was identified with carpentering and farming, being recognized in Huron county as one of its worthy and respected citizens, arriving here in the period of early manhood. He was born in England, in January, 1835, and was a son of John Graham of that country. He spent the first nineteen years of his life in the land of his birth and during that period acquired his early education in the public schools. The favorable reports which he heard concerning America and the business opportunities here afforded led him to the determination to seek his fortune on the western side of the Atlantic, and acting on this resolution he came to the United States making his way at once to Huron county, Ohio. In early life he learned and followed the carpenter's trade, being identified with building operations here until soon after his marriage, when he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits.

In November, 1859, Mr. Graham was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. Lowther, who was born in Huron county in February, 1839, and is a daughter of Edward and Martha (Lovell) Lowther. Her paternal grandparents were Henry and Sarah Lowther, in whose family were three children, Edward, Thomas and William. The Lowthers were among the early settlers of Huron county, establishing their home here in pioneer times when much of the land was still undeveloped, being covered with the native forest growth. Edward Lowther assisted in the arduous task of transforming the wild timber region into cultivated fields and for a long period was closely identified with agricultural interests. Having arrived at years of maturity he married Miss Martha Lovell, a daughter of David and Mary (Chilcott) Lovell, in whose family were three daughters and a son, Martha, Rachel, Eleanor and Ethan. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lowther was blessed with nine children, namely: Sarah, Mariette, Isabella, Jackson, David, Helen, Martha, James and Thomas. Of this family Sarah gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Graham in 1859, and as the years passed they became the parents of a son and daughter. Lewis, the elder, born in 1865, married Jessie Watts, and they have two sons, William and Bruce. Martha, born in 1869, is the wife of Mor-

ris Tilson, and the mother of five children, Maud, Irving, Graham, Gardner and Murray.

Soon after their marriage Mr. Graham ceased to engage in carpentering and turned his attention to the task of tilling the soil, becoming owner of a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Fairfield township. Year after year he diligently carried on the work of the fields, raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate. That his methods were practical and progressive is indicated in the large crops which he gathered and also in the well kept appearance of his farm. In all of his business affairs he was thoroughly reliable and his integrity stood as an unquestioned fact in his career. He was a member of the Universalist church and gave his political allegiance to the democracy but did not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He died May, 1907, and is still survived by his widow, Mrs. Sarah E. Graham, who yet makes her home in Fairfield township. She has always lived in this county and has a very wide acquaintance, while the warm friendship of many with whom she has come in contact is freely accorded her.

JOHN LAWLER.

John Lawler, devoting his time and energies to the cultivation and improvement of his farm of one hundred acres in Lyme township, is a worthy native son of this county, his birth having occurred in Lyme township on the 25th of December, 1857. His parents, Thomas and Sarah (Lawler) Lawler, were both natives of Ireland, born in the years 1825 and 1834 respectively. It was about 1850 that Thomas Lawler crossed the Atlantic to the United States and took up his abode in Huron county, working as a farm hand in Lyme township for a time. Subsequently he purchased a tract of ninety-one acres of land in the same township, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was successfully engaged until the time of his demise in 1882. In religious faith he was a Catholic and his honorable, upright life won him the warm regard and esteem of many with whom he came in contact. His widow still survives and is well known throughout the community as a lady of many excellent traits of heart and mind. Unto this worthy couple were born nine children, namely: John, of this review; and Edward, Thomas, Patrick, Michael, Joseph, Mary, Margaret and Sarah, all of whom are deceased, with exception of Mary.

John Lawler obtained a good practical education in the district schools of his native township and has always continued to reside here, following the occupation of farming as a life work. In 1905 he bought his present place of one hundred acres from his father-in-law and has met with a gratifying and well merited measure of prosperity in his agricultural interests, the fields annually yielding golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

On the 7th of April, 1891, Mr. Lawler was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Winzerl, who was born in Lyme township in April, 1864. Her parents, John and Eliza (Kehoe) Winzerl, were natives of Germany and Ireland respectively, the former having come to America in 1848, while the latter crossed the Atlantic

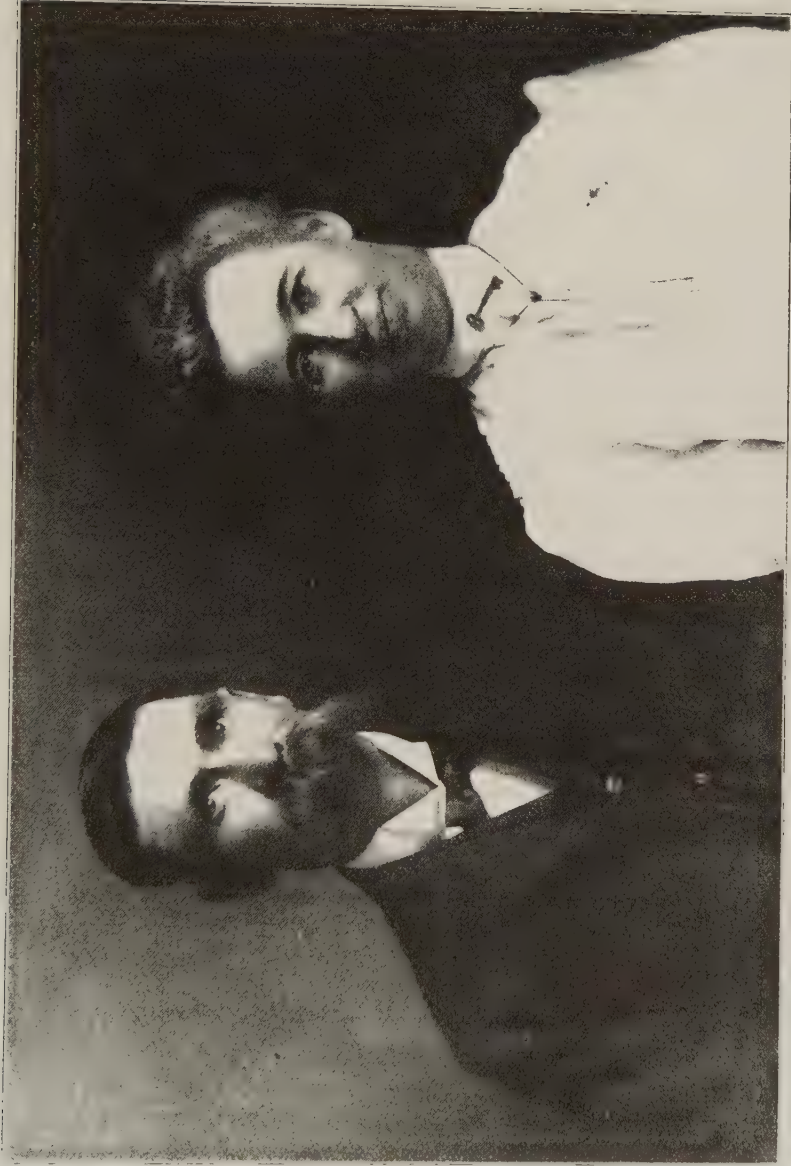
in 1851. Both were employed on farms for some time, but after their marriage, in 1861, Mr. Winzerl purchased a farm of one hundred acres in Lyme township, where they continued to make their home until called from this life. They were Catholics in religious faith and were the parents of three children, namely: John; Catharine, wife of our subject; and Julia, deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lawler have been born five children: Joseph, John, Sadie, Wilfred and Loretta, all at home. The parents are devoted and faithful members of the Catholic church and are well known and highly esteemed throughout the county in which they spent their entire lives.

FRANK B. GANNETT.

Frank B. Gannett, a well known, successful and enterprising agriculturist of Fairfield township, was born in the state of New York on the 15th of February, 1869. When a little lad of six years he was adopted by Thomas Gannett, who had no children of his own and whose farm he inherited at the time of Mr. Gannett's death in 1901. Thomas Gannett, whose birth occurred in England in September, 1845, devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. It was in 1866 that he took up his abode on a farm in Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, having purchased the property from James Buck, of Norwalk. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emma Sweet, was born in England in 1834. They were well known and highly esteemed throughout the community as people of genuine personal worth and upright, honorable lives.

Frank B. Gannett attended the schools of North Fairfield in the acquirement of an education that would equip him for the practical and responsible duties of life. Since putting aside his text-books he has given his attention to the work of general farming, in which line of activity he has won a gratifying and well merited degree of prosperity, being the owner of one hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land in Fairfield township. This is the oldest farm in the township and on it was erected the first frame house in Fairfield. The place is now equipped with a number of substantial buildings, which are kept in a state of excellent repair, and in addition to raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate Mr. Gannett also feeds sheep, hogs and cattle on quite an extensive scale. He likewise engages in the sale of machine oils and all lubricating oils, which he supplies through three townships, disposing of about one hundred and fifty barrels annually. In all of his business affairs he is alert and enterprising, meeting with the measure of success which always rewards earnest, persistent and well directed labor.

In September, 1898, Mr. Gannett was united in marriage to Miss Georgina Duncan, whose birth occurred in Ontario, Canada, on the 4th of April, 1862. Her father, Robert Duncan, who was born on the 10th of May, 1828, passed away June 10, 1903. He was of Scotch descent and made his home at Bluevale, Ontario, of which town his father was one of the first settlers. The mother of Mrs. Gannett was born in 1829 and was a second cousin of Sir John A. Mc-



MR. AND MRS. FRANK B. GANNETT

Donald, the premier of Canada. Her demise occurred on the 7th of April, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Gannett now have two children, namely: Norman Thomas, born February 28, 1902; and Robert Duncan, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 18th of March, 1904. A resident of this county for more than a third of a century, Mr. Gannett is widely known within its borders and the substantial qualities which he has displayed in his citizenship and in his business relations have gained him a high place in the regard and good will of his fellow townsmen.

C. E. WARD.

Success is not a matter of genius, as held by some, but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and indefatigable energy. This truth is manifest in an analyzation of the life record of all those men who are pushing their way to the front and seeking their advancement in the legitimate lines of trade. It is proven again in the history of C. E. Ward, a prominent regalia manufacturer of New London, where he has developed a business of large and profitable proportions, utilizing every advantage that has come to hand and carefully watchful of all details pointing to success.

Ohio numbers Mr. Ward among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Sullivan, Ashland county, on the 9th of January, 1873. His parents were Jacob and Ellen (Hubler) Ward, who were also natives of this state, the Hubler family coming from Pennsylvania at an early day. C. E. Ward was one of three children and an only son. He lost his mother when five years of age and in early life was thrown upon his own resources. His educational opportunities were those afforded by the public schools of New London but the necessity of providing for his own support prevented him from obtaining a higher education. He is essentially a self-made man, one who has risen from the humble position of a clerkship in a grocery store to the head of an extensive, prosperous and growing manufacturing concern at the age of thirty-six years, an accomplishment which speaks for itself. He made his initial step in the business world as a grocery clerk, being thus employed for a few years when as a result of his industry, integrity and foresight, he was enabled to engage in business on his own account as a dealer in furniture.

The Regalia Manufacturing business which "has made New London famous" was established in a very modest way by W. S. Bellville and R. B. Powers in 1889 and after a short time, they sold out to W. E. Clemmons and S. O. Curtis. On the 13th of July, 1895, Mr. Ward purchased the interest of Mr. Curtis and carried on a business in partnership with Mr. Clemmons. The manufacturing department was conducted upstairs in connection with the furniture business below. In January, 1904, Mr. Clemmons was about to sell his interest to Mr. Powers, but before the deal was consummated, Mr. Ward induced him to sell to E. R. Stillson and in connection with the latter carried on the business as Ward & Stillson, until September 19, 1905, when Mr. Stillson bought out Mr. Ward's interest and organized an incorporated company under the title of the Ward Stillson Company. Mr. Ward then erected his present manufactory and organized the C. E. Ward

Company, of which he is president while his father is vice-president. He commenced business under this style October 1, 1905, in the manufacture of regalia and the enterprise has grown enormously, the rapid development of the trade being indicated in the fact that this year's business will reach over a quarter of a million dollars. They employ a superior class of help, both male and female, and the firm is represented on the road by seven traveling salesmen while the business extends throughout the United States and Canada. Mr. Ward is a bright, genial man, energetic, far-sighted and progressive and while his success is notable it is equally well deserved.

In 1895, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ward and Miss Daisy E. White, a daughter of Daniel White, an old resident of New London and a Civil war veteran. Mr. Ward's father was also a Union soldier, serving with the Twenty-fifth Independent Battery of the Light Artillery. Two children, Sterling and Virginia, have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Ward and with the parents constitute the members of the household. Mr. Ward is a valued representative of the Masonic fraternity in which he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is also connected with other orders and while he is no office seeker, his business interests preclude the possibility of active participation in public affairs as an office holder. He is an ardent republican, stands for clean government and is opposed to anything like misrule in municipal affairs. He concentrates his energies upon his business, which demands his entire time and in its control, he displays marked executive ability, keen discernment and a power of wisely co-ordinating forces so as to produce an unified and harmonious whole. His business has been notably successful for within a brief period he has built up an enterprise second to no productive industry in New London or this part of the county.

S. J. RUMMELL.

S. J. Rummell, carrying on general agricultural pursuits, his time and energies being devoted to the further development, cultivation and improvement of a farm of sixty-three acres of land, is numbered among the native sons of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Ottawa county on the 1st of March, 1856, a son of Sebastian and Applelona (Diehl) Rummell. As a boy he was reared amid the wholesome influence and environment of rural life and later his time was largely divided between the work of the schoolroom and the duties of the fields. Arriving at years of maturity, he wisely chose as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared and has largely devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. He has, however, in the past given some attention to painting and butchering but is now engaged in general farming. His place of sixty-three acres has a well kept appearance and the fields, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation, annually bring forth rich harvests. He practices rotation of crops, while the work of plowing, planting and harvesting is systematically done, due attention being given to the condition and quality of the soil.

In 1880 Mr. Rummell was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Vogus, a daughter of Fred Vogus, and unto this union have been born the following children: Mandy,

Fred, Anna, Nettie, Ida, Laura, Albert and Albertina. In politics Mr. Rummell is a stanch democrat, giving loyal support to the principles of that party and doing all in his power to extend its influence in the community. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church and are highly respected for their many good traits of character. Mr. Rummell has never sought to figure prominently in a public way, preferring always to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs which, carefully conducted, are bringing to him gratifying returns. Although he has lived in this locality only nine years, he nevertheless has gained a wide circle of friends who entertain for him warm regard.

CHARLES W. ABBEY.

Charles W. Abbey is cultivating a farm of ninety-three acres in Norwalk township and is a farmer whose well directed energy and keen foresight are bringing to him a creditable measure of prosperity. He was born in the northern peninsula of Michigan on the 24th of August, 1849, a son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Todd) Abbey. On the paternal side he comes of Welsh lineage, the line of descent extending down from John Abbey, through his son Shuble, who married Sarah Sanford and in turn became the father of Aaron Abbey, who was born September 10, 1825, in Ashtabula county, Ohio. The mother of our subject was born in Buffalo, New York, November 14, 1829, and is a daughter of Augustus and Arna (Cole) Todd. On both the paternal and maternal sides the men have been long-lived, Shuble Abbey, the grandfather of our subject, having lived to the venerable age of ninety-six years. He was extremely active during his entire life and when eighty-five years old climbed a chestnut tree and shook down the nuts. Henry Francisco, the great-great-grandfather, lived to the remarkable age of one hundred and thirty-four years. He was of French descent and resided in New York. When one hundred years old he plowed with a yoke of oxen, and at the age of fourteen years he played the bugle at the coronation of Queen Anne. In the family of Aaron Abbey and his wife were five children: Henry A., Albert A., Charles W., Edward A. and Walter S.

As a farm boy Charles W. Abbey spent the days of boyhood and youth and in the public schools he acquired a fair education that qualified him to take up the more responsible duties of life when he put aside the tasks of the schoolroom. He remained at home until about eighteen years of age, when he purchased the farm upon which he now resides and started out in business on his own account. He has made this farm his home for forty-two years and in the meantime has brought it under a fine state of cultivation. He is up-to-date and progressive in his methods and his well directed energy and close application to business have been the means of bringing to him a most gratifying degree of success.

Mr. Abbey was united in marriage on the 1st of May, 1872, to Miss Matilda Florence Lockwood, a daughter of Eli and Anna (Howarth) Lockwood, of Huron county. Their home has been blessed with one son, Bernard, who was born February 3, 1875, and married Miss Orpha Allman. Fraternally Mr. Abbey is a Masen and holds membership in a Michigan lodge, while his son, Bernard, belongs

to the Elks and the Maccabees of Norwalk. He is independent in politics and is governed by the character of the candidates rather than by any feeling of partisanship. He is not neglectful of the responsibilities as well as the privileges of citizenship, but at all times lends his aid to further any measure which has for its object the substantial and permanent upbuilding and welfare of the community. As he has made his home for many years in Huron county, he has a wide acquaintance here and his friends know him as an enterprising agriculturist and a man of genuine personal worth.

E. W. SMITH.

E. W. Smith, a well known and prominent farmer and horse dealer of Ripley township, may well claim the proud American title of a self-made man, inasmuch as the prosperity which he now enjoys has been won entirely through his own efforts and has come as the result of indefatigable industry and well directed energy. Born on the 16th of February, 1865, in this township, he is a son of Otis and Mary Jane (Welsh) Smith, the former born in Onondaga county, New York, in 1832, while the latter's birth occurred in Ripley township, Huron county, in 1838. The paternal grandfather, Henry Smith, was born in New York in 1800 and came to Ohio at an early date, purchasing the farm upon which our subject now resides in 1840. He married Caroline Redfield, and in their family were the following children: Otis, Henry, Jane and two who passed away in infancy. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Nicholas V. and Susan (Styles) Welsh, and was the eldest in a family of four children, the others being Peter, John and Rachel. Nicholas Welsh was born in 1819 in Maryland and is a son of John Welsh. His grandfather, John Welsh, Sr., was the founder of the family in America, coming from Wales when nineteen years of age and locating in Maryland. The family was numbered among the slave traders of that state at one time, but upon their removal to Ohio they freed all of their slaves. Mr. Welsh, like many other southerners, was raised by an old black mammy. The family of Otis Smith and his wife consisted of five children, namely, Warren, Charles, Ralph, E. W. and Verna.

Amid the scenes and environments of agricultural life E. W. Smith was reared to manhood, acquiring his education in the district schools, and when not engaged with his text-books he assisted his father in the work of the fields, his training in general farming being most thorough and comprehensive. He remained at home until he attained his majority and then started out in business for himself. Most of his life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he now owns a fine farm of one hundred and ninety-eight acres of land which, in its well improved and attractive appearance, indicates the thrift and progressiveness of its owner. For ten years, however, he operated a livery and sale stable in Plymouth, and he now deals in horses, making a specialty of breeding trotters. He has been very successful in his various undertakings and is now ranked among the substantial and representative agriculturists of Huron county.

It was on the 19th of August, 1885, that Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Ella Watts, who was born in East Cleveland, Ohio, in January, 1866, a daugh-

ter of Frank and Elizabeth (Lester) Watts. She was the sister of Hattie, Sarah, Grace and Alberta Watts, and by her marriage to Mr. Smith became the mother of two sons: Forest, born in December, 1888; and Charles, born in May, 1897. The eldest son, who is a graduate of the Plymouth high school, taught school for several years and in the fall of 1909 entered the Ohio State University. The family are members of the Methodist church of Plymouth, and are people of high repute in the community in which they reside.

Mr. Smith holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in politics is a stalwart republican, giving his unwavering support to that party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. Although he has confined his attention closely to business, yet he has found time to interest himself in those affairs which should always claim the attention of every good citizen, and his influence is ever on the side of progress, improvement, reform and advancement. His has been a life of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of honest labor, and in this community, where he has resided throughout his entire lifetime, he has gained an extensive circle of warm friends, who entertain for him high regard, while the fact that he is most liked where best known indicates that his salient characteristics are in accord with the principles of honorable and upright manhood.

HORACE B. SILLIMAN.

One of the prosperous farmers of Ripley township and one of the extensive landholders, is Horace B. Silliman. Although not one of Ohio's native sons he early saw the great agricultural possibilities of the state and for more than half a century, has made it his home. He was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, September 13, 1832, and is the son of Joseph and Lucinda (Banks) Silliman. The Silliman family is of Dutch and English descent, but has for several generations been connected with the life of this country. The father, Joseph Silliman, was born in 1790 in the county that was later the birthplace of his son and was the eldest of the family of nine that were born of the union of Justice Silliman and Miss Ruth Jennings. The other children were: Abijah, Daniel, Stephen, Sarah, Ruth, Abigail, Marinda and Isaac. Mrs. Lucinda Silliman was also born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, but was two years younger than her husband, her birth having occurred in the year 1792. She was the daughter of Thomas Banks and his wife and the sister of Jane, Amelia, Sarah, Esther and Rachel. Through her marriage with Joseph Silliman she became the mother of three children: Horace B., George and Sarah Eliza.

Horace B. Silliman first came to Ohio in 1849, when he was but seventeen years of age and remained but ten months staying with his brother George who was a resident of Fairfield. The impressions formed on this visit, however, were so favorable, that he returned to his home with the intention of disposing of his property as quickly as possible and coming again to this state, which though not as well developed as at present, seemed to offer great opportunities, especially to the man who was willing to work. In 1855, he sold his property in Connecti-

cut and came to Ripley township, where he purchased the one hundred and eighty-four acres on which he now lives. The years have proved the wisdom of his decision. He has been more successful than he had even dared to hope; the land brought him rich harvests, and when he engaged in the stock business, it too prospered, so that he has been able from time to time to add to his original land holdings until he now has three hundred and forty acres in Ripley township.

In the April of the year preceding his advent to Ohio, that of 1854, Mr. Silliman married Miss Abigail Hawkins, who was born August 20, 1833, in Fairfield county, Connecticut, and is a daughter of Eben and Clara (Wakeman) Hawkins. The parents had a family of eight children, of whom Mrs. Silliman is the youngest. The others were Burr, William, Elihu, Arella, Sarah, Mary and Adaline. To Mr. and Mrs. Silliman have been born eleven children: Georgiana, William, Frank, Dwight, Edward, Clara, Mary, Ella and three who died in infancy.

In politics, Mr. Silliman affiliates with the democratic party and has taken a vital interest in the affairs of the township, having served for a number of years as trustee and at several different times as assessor. He is also responsible to some degree for the financial stability of the county, for he was one of the founders of the People's Bank at Plymouth and the Farmers Bank at Greenwich, and since their establishment has been upon their boards of directors. Yet the position of esteem which he holds in the community is due entirely to his own efforts, because he seized opportunities when they presented themselves and made others whenever he saw the slightest possibility of gaining and advancing by them. Fraternally, he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Royal Arcanum.

ISABELLA CONGER.

Isabella Conger, of Greenfield township, who is conducting the farm on the one hundred and fifty-one acres of land left by her husband, was born in this township, June 25, 1831, and is a daughter of Edward and Martha (Lovell) Lowther. Her paternal grandfather, Henry Lowther, was born in Ireland and came to the United States at the time of the rebellion in his home land. He settled in New York state, became a farmer and acquired considerable property, which he lost by going bond for a friend. His son Edward Lowther, the father of Mrs. Conger, was born in New York city in 1800. At the age of seventeen he came west to Ohio, locating in Greenfield township, Huron county, where he purchased land and lived the remainder of his days. Captain Lowther he was generally called, for he was at one time captain of the militia and was otherwise prominent in his section of the county, for he held many township offices during the period of his residence here and was a conspicuous figure in the Universalist church. His life was brought to a close in 1886. His wife was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, and came with her parents to Ohio when it was a dense forest and when Indians were frequent visitors to the homes of the white settlers. Quite a different county did she leave in 1887, when her eighty-one years of activity were ended by death. She



MR. AND MRS. LEWIS L. CONGER

became the mother of the following children: Thomas, deceased; Mariette, the widow of Ira Watterman; Isabella, of this sketch; Jackson, of Sherwood, Ohio; Sarah, the widow of William Graham; Helen, the deceased wife of Dexter Mason; Martha, the wife of Barnett Rowe; and James.

Greenfield township has always been Mrs. Conger's home. She was born here in a little log house and in the district schools received such an education as they were able to give. She took part in the work that was carried on at the home farm, such work as a girl could do, and was about twenty years of age when she was sought in marriage by Lewis Conger, the son of Elijah and Hannah (Ludlow) Conger. Mr. Conger was born September 8, 1824, at Ludlowville, New York, and in 1833, came with his parents to Milan, Ohio, where he worked with his father in a mill until 1850, when the family moved to Greenfield township. In 1870 Mr. Conger bought the farm on which his widow now lives from Jacob Noggle, and as it was in an almost rude state, the many improvements that it now possesses are to be laid to Mr. Conger's credit.

On the 10th of February, 1853, Mr. Conger and Miss Lowther were united in the holy bonds of matrimony, and the forty-four years during which they were permitted to traverse life's pathway together were blessed with four children. Edward L., who lives in Greenfield township, married Miss Nellie Hall and has two children, May and Ray. Halsey died at the age of five months. Julia, now deceased, was the wife of Charles Palmer and the mother of two children, Florence and Charles. Lewis, who lives on the farm with his mother, was married to Miss Ada Daly, of Greenfield township and is the father of a daughter Isabelle. Mr. Conger was called to his final rest November 11, 1899, and during the subsequent years the son Lewis has taken full charge of the farm, has conducted its work and managed its finances.

DANIEL JAY MORSE.

Daniel Jay Morse is now living retired in North Fairfield but for many years was closely associated with farming interests in Huron county. Prospering as the years went by he acquired a handsome competence and when relieved of the necessity of further labor to provide a means of living, he took up his abode in town, there to enjoy the fruits of his former toil. He is not actively engaged in any business at the present time, save in loaning money. Few men have longer resided within the borders of the county than Mr. Morse, who is one of the native sons, his birth having occurred in Bronson township, on the 23d of March, 1836. There were still many evidences of pioneer life here at that time, for the railroads had not been built, much of the land was still uncultivated and through the dense forests roamed wild animals, while various kinds of wild game were to be seen. Great changes have since occurred and with the work of general progress and improvement Mr. Morse has been identified. He comes of a family of English lineage. The first of the name of whom we have authentic record was John Morse, who was commissioned a captain in the Colonial army before the Revolutionary war by King George III, and the commission is still in possession of his descend-

ents. At the time the colonies attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression he became allied with American interests and participated in the war for independence holding the rank of captain in the Continental army. His grandfather, Ezekiel Morse, was born in Massachusetts and went from New England to Rochester, New York, during the war of 1812. He fought with the American troops throughout the war and took up his abode in Rochester when it was a mere hamlet, he and his brother Enoch laying out the main street of the city. He was also one of the first aldermen of Rochester and was closely and prominently connected with the work of development and upbuilding during the formative period. At his death he was taken back to Rochester, where he was accorded a public burial by the city.

Daniel S. Morse, the father of Daniel J. Morse, was born in Washington, Massachusetts, and came to Huron county, Ohio, about 1820 or 1822, making the journey by way of the lake to the town of Huron, where he hired an ox team and in that manner proceeded to Greenwich. He remained there for only a year, however, after which he settled upon a farm in Bronson township, where he remained until called to his final rest. This is the only farm in Bronson township that has never passed out of possession of the family nor never had a mortgage upon it. He diligently pursued his work in developing and improving his property and became recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of the community. Moreover, he was a prominent and influential citizen and filled various positions of public trust in his township. He acted for at time as justice of the peace, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial and for twenty-six years prior to his death he was the trusted and reliable treasurer of the township. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Congregational church, in the work of which he took an active and helpful part, serving for many years as one of the deacons and doing everything in his power to promote the growth and extend the influence of the society. In early manhood he had married Lucy Jeffords, also a native of Washington, Massachusetts, and they became the parents of nine children, Lois, Mary L., Edward, Daniel Jay, Laura, Theodore, Martha, Jacob and Ellen. Of this family Edward, Daniel and Jane are the only ones now living. The homestead of one hundred and twenty acres, which the father long owned and which he left at the time of his death, still remains undivided.

Daniel Jay Morse was reared on the old home farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist in his efforts to profitably till the soil. When but a boy he took his place in the fields as soon as old enough to handle the plow and continued to engage actively in general farming until he retired from business life. His education was acquired in the public schools and in the school of experience he has also learned many valuable lessons. That his methods of farm work were practical and brought substantial results is indicated in the position to which he has attained among the men of affluence in the county.

In 1859 Mr. Morse was united in marriage to Miss Orpha Watrous, a daughter of Cyrus and Emily (Barber) Watrous, of Erie county, Ohio. Three children were born of that marriage: Charles Watrous, who was born in 1861 and is a railroad man; William S., born in 1865; and Emma, who was born in 1874 and is now deceased. Having lost his first wife, Mr. Morse was again married on the 22d of

September, 1907, to Eva Belle Tremley, a daughter of William and Sarah Ann (Hoffmire) Tremley. Mr. and Mrs. Morse are now living in North Fairfield, he having sold his farm and taken up his abode in town, there to enjoy well earned rest. His money is now loaned out and he derives from his investments a good income. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist church. His life has always been honorable and upright and has ever been in conformity to a high standard of business principles. Neither has he been indifferent to good citizenship but has sought the good of the community through his cooperation in many public measures. He has lived to witness remarkable changes in the county, including the building of railroads, the introduction of the telegraph and the telephone, the adoption of all modern farm machinery and the employment of all modern means for intellectual, aesthetic and moral progress as well. He rejoices in what has been accomplished and has given stalwart support to many movements which have been directly beneficial to this section of the state.

FRANKLIN C. WOOD.

Among the men of Greenwich village, distinguished for exceptional bravery is Franklin C. Wood, the town marshal, who was born November 1, 1877, in Cass township, Richland county, Ohio, and is a son of John W. and Mary E. (Darling) Wood. Both parents were also natives of that township, to which the paternal grandfather, James C. Wood, had come from New York state. He was among the early settlers there and cleared the land of the heavy timber with which it was covered. As the township grew he became prominent in its affairs, and was one of the four that organized the republican party in Cass township. He himself did not serve in the Civil war, but he sent four sons to fight for their country, two of whom died in the service. Kellum succumbed to disease while with his regiment; William died from the effects of a wound received in the battle of Bull Run; Charles served four years and after the war went to Kansas, where he died; and Andrew was in the one hundred days' service, and still lives in Shiloh, Ohio.

John W. Wood, the father of Franklin C. Wood, was too young to enlist. For many years he was a farmer of Richland county and later of Huron county, and in the year 1906, removed to Greenwich village, where he has since resided with his family, pursuing the carpenter's trade. His wife's father, William E. Wood, was also an early settler in Cass township, Richland county, and was one of the four men who organized the republican party there. He was accidentally killed many years ago, by having his clothing caught in the tumbling rod of the old horse-power thresher. Mr. and Mrs. John W. Wood, became the parents of two children: Florence, who died in infancy; and Franklin C., the subject of this sketch.

As a young lad and into the period of his young manhood, Franklin C. Wood lived and worked on his father's farm, receiving his education at the district schools of the county. He later entered upon the life and work of farming, which he pursued for several years after his marriage, until 1906, when he came to

Greenwich village. In August of the following year, he was appointed marshall to fill an unexpired term and in November was duly elected by popular vote to the same office for a term of two years. On more than one occasion, the people have had reason to congratulate themselves on the wisdom of their choice, for Mr. Wood has proved a most valuable officer, but perhaps never more than upon the morning of December 16, 1908, a day that has gone into the annals of the village, when Mr. Wood proved himself a man of stupendous courage and iron nerve. Even as he with all modesty recounts the occurrence, it is one that excites our admiration and wonder. In the early morning of December 16, 1908, while going upon his rounds, Mr. Wood encountered four men in the street, evidently intent upon robbing the banks of the village. Upon accosting them, he was led into a trap between some box cars standing on a side track, and then suddenly found that he was facing a brace of revolvers. He was ordered to throw up his hands, which he did, but his own revolver came up with them and one of the men fell dead from the shot which he pulled. This of course brought the remaining men upon him with renewed force; they fired on him and then engaged in a hand to hand struggle, in the course of which he was overpowered and left for unconscious, the men retiring to some distance to look after their fallen comrade. He was not so much used up as appeared, however, but managed to get his guns into working order again, and doubtless would have ended the life of another man, had they not discovered his activity and pounced upon him with increased vindictiveness, jumping on him, kicking him and literally trampling him into the ground, where they left him to make their own escape. Unconscious he was indeed this time, but with the passage of the hours soon gained sufficient power to drag himself to a pool of water from which he revived himself sufficiently to call for assistance. There was immediately great commotion, the wounded marshal was put aboard a fast Big Four train, flagged for the purpose, and hurried to the hospital at Galion, where for many days his life hung by a slender thread. After six weeks, he was pronounced to be able to leave the physician's care and to go to his home in Greenwich, but even there the period of his confinement to his bed was prolonged for three months longer. He is now able to be about town, though he is still very weak from the many thrilling experiences through which he has passed the last being the fourth that almost resulted in death to him, though the three preceding ones were merely accidental. On the occasion of the first, he was kicked severely by a horse, the second time a tree fell on him, and on the third, he was caught in some machinery. In each case, he was so badly injured, that his life was despaired of, but on each occasion, as on this most recent, he has pulled through. It is needless to say that the three assailants on the night of December 16, escaped, but he who was killed was identified by the Pinkerton Detective Agency, as Edward Quinn, a criminal with a long record, who was sought for in many cities. It is believed that it was the intention of the men to rob at least one of the banks of Greenwich, and in recognition of the marshal's bravery and opportune frustration of the robbers' operations, a purse of substantial size was presented to him. The Casualty and Security Company, which carried burglar insurance on the banks, and the Ohio Bankers' Association each contributed one hundred dollars, and the subscriptions of the other banks and from the citizens of the village brought the sum up to twelve hundred and fifty-

four dollars, which was paid him as a slight appreciation of the value of his services.

On the 12th of December, 1902, Mr. Wood was married to Miss Myrtle G. Martin, a daughter of Joseph and Julia (Weygant) Martin, of New London, where the father is living in retirement after an active life as a farmer. One child, Thelma G., has been born of this union. Mr. Wood and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and she is also a member of the Ladies of the Maccabees. To the Knights of the Maccabees, Mr. Wood belongs and to the Greenwich Lodge, No. 640, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics, he is a republican and is an effective party worker. After the incident narrated above, it is but repetition to say that he is a man of unflinching nerve, of fixed determination, and one who believes in doing right, because it is right, and while these qualities are inestimable they are fully appreciated by Mr. Wood's fellow citizens, a knowledge and satisfaction that is afforded to but comparatively few persons.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN DARLING.

A well improved farm of ninety acres pays tribute to the labor and care bestowed upon it by William Franklin Darling, one of Ohio's native sons, whose birth occurred in Richland county, January 2, 1856. He is a son of William and Lydia (Shoup) Darling, both natives of Richland county, Ohio, the former born in 1811. The father, who was the second white child born in that county, spent his entire life within its borders, passing away in 1874. He was twice married, his first union being with Miss Lydia Shoup, while for his second wife he chose Miss Leah Wagner, a native of Crawford county. Two children were born unto the first union, Mary and William F.

No event of especial importance came to vary the routine of life for William Franklin Darling during the period of his boyhood and youth, which were spent on his father's farm amid the scenes and environments of rural life. He attended the district schools in the acquirement of his education, and under the capable direction of his father received thorough business training which well equipped him for the practical and responsible duties of life. He remained at home until his marriage and in the year following that event, he purchased the farm upon which he now resides and which has been in his possession for the past thirty-two years. He has directed his entire energies toward its further improvement, has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and has erected substantial, modern buildings, while upon the place are found all of the conveniences and accessories that go to make up a model farm. In the management of his affairs, he manifests excellent business ability, and his close application and untiring industry are the salient elements in the prosperity which he now enjoys.

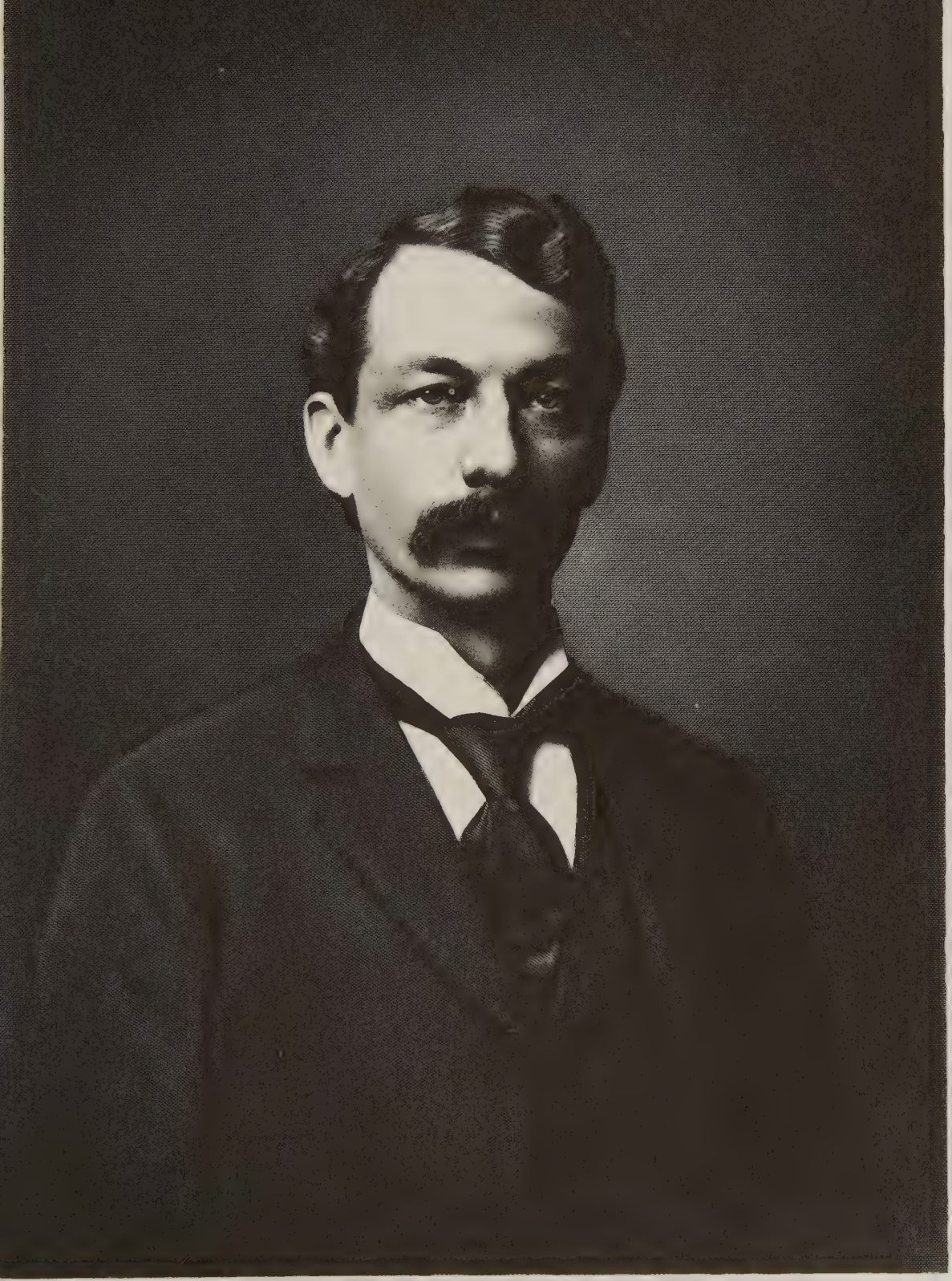
Mr. Darling was united in marriage on the 30th of December, 1876, to Miss Catherine Wentz, who was born November 27, 1854, in Richland county, Ohio, her parents being Solomon and Catherine (Firewood) Wentz. She had three sisters and two brothers all younger than herself, namely: Mary, George, Anna,

Clara and Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Darling became the parents of three children, as follows: Effie, who was born in 1877, and married Joseph Hodge, by whom she has three children: Adon, Alice and Martha; Pearl, whose birth occurred in 1884; and Mary, born in 1890. The family are members of the Lutheran church at Shiloh, Ohio, in the work of which they are interested and to the support of which they are generous contributors. Mr. Darling gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but has no desire for office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business interests in which he is meeting with signal success, being now ranked among the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Ripley township.

CALVIN WHITNEY.

The life record of Calvin Whitney was beautiful in its symmetry, in its purposes and its accomplishments. In him keen discernment and powers of management were well balanced with a charitable spirit and broad humanitarianism. Because of this his work was of the utmost value in the public life of Norwalk and his history constitutes an important chapter in the annals of the city. He was born in Townsend, Huron county, Ohio, September 25, 1846, and was one of the six children of Charles and Roxanna (Palmer) Whitney. The father's birth occurred in Shelby, Richland county, Ohio, on the 23d of September, 1812, and his father was Henry Whitney, who was born in 1791 in Norwalk, Connecticut. There he married Miss Lucy Grumman and in 1819 they made their way to the western border of civilization—for so it then seemed—and settled in Shelby, Richland county. The family is of English origin and was founded in this country by Henry Whitney, who emigrated from England, where he was born, about 1620. He became one of the early residents of New England where his family was represented for successive generations in the vicinity of Norwalk, Connecticut, until the removal to the west was made by Henry Whitney, who was the first of the name in Ohio.

Calvin Whitney in his boyhood days worked on the home farm and attended the country schools. He was apt and diligent in his studies, manifesting special fondness for mathematics and, encouraged by a loving mother, he mastered the elements of an English education and at the age of fifteen was much better equipped by mental training for the duties of life than most boys of his age. Lessons of industry, perseverance and integrity were also impressed upon his mind and in the course of years bore rich fruit. He was but eighteen years of age when he started out in life on his own account, undertaking the task of operating a small farm on the shares, but a hail storm ruined his crops and he concluded that Providence did not intend him to follow farming. Therefore, in 1865 with his capital amounting to about four hundred dollars, he embarked in the hardwood lumber business, in which he soon established a credit and by which he won success from the start. His patronage grew rapidly until his sales aggregated about two hundred thousand dollars annually. He possessed superior ability for judging and



Calvin Whitney

buying lumber and because of this was enabled to make judicious investments and profitable sales.

In the fall of 1875 the A. B. Chase Company was organized in Norwalk and on account of Mr. Whitney's superior knowledge of the lumber business, his record as an executive and the fact that he was a rising young business man of keen discrimination, his cooperation was sought as one of the incorporators of the company, which was organized for the manufacture of reed organs with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars. Mr. Whitney became one of its first directors and so continued until April, 1877, when on the death of A. B. Chase, he was elected the president of the A. B. Chase Company and continuously occupied that position until his demise. He saw the business grow from a comparatively small beginning to one of extensive proportions and in foreign lands as well as in America its product has a large sale. In what manner Mr. Whitney filled the presidency and caused a newly organized business company to be recognized as among the responsible, respected and prominent industries of the United States, is history with which nearly every one in Norwalk and every piano man in the country is familiar. A man of great versatility he readily adapted himself to changed conditions and to widely different lines of business—and always with success. The word fail had no place in his vocabulary. He knew that when one avenue of advancement seemed closed there were other paths which might be sought out and followed and he never relinquished an honorable purpose.

On the 5th of November, 1868, occurred the marriage of Calvin Whitney and Miss Marian Dean, a daughter of Royal Cady and Marian (Smith) Dean, of Townsend, Huron county, Ohio. They became the parents of four children: Marian Daisy, the wife of E. B. Dillon, of Columbus; Ruby L., of this city; Ida C., now the wife of Amos W. Gardiner, of Houston, Texas; and Warren Calvin, who is a prominent representative of the A. B. Chase Company. He was born in Norwalk, October 9, 1882, was educated in the schools of this city, in Ohio University and in Princeton University, in which he was graduated with the class of 1906. He then entered into active relations with the A. B. Chase Company and now spends much of his time on the road in looking after the interests of the firm. He is a bright young man, fitted by education and training to follow in the footsteps of his father. The wife and mother died November 4, 1901, and on the 25th of August, 1904, Mr. Whitney was married to Mrs. Urania A. Todd, who with the four children survives the husband and father.

Some time prior to his demise Mr. Whitney underwent a severe operation, from which he never fully recovered and after an illness lasting more than a year he passed away on the sixth day of June, 1909. His parents were members of the Baptist church for fifty years and he was reared in a religious atmosphere and became thoroughly in sympathy with work along moral lines. For many years he held membership in the Methodist church and his religion was always of the cheery kind, his life and his example being its exponent. It is not likely that the amount that he has given for charities and the cause of religion will ever be known because of his desire to give of himself and his money without the plaudits of men. However, his contributions to all branches of church work were most generous and he donated ten thousand dollars to the extension fund of the Methodist Episcopal church for the building of houses of worship in the far west and,

giving this in honor of his wife, it is known as the Marian Whitney fund. No tale of sorrow or distress made appeal to him in vain and not only his substantial assistance but also his words of encouragement brought hope into the lives of many who fared forward the better for it. He possessed a marvelous memory and superior intellect which were undimmed during his long illness and though he retired from the active management of the Norwalk business he kept in touch with the piano trade of the country and to within a month of his death continued his correspondence with his contemporaries in that field of labor. The community at his death felt that a priceless possession had been taken, for he was a dominating factor in commercial and manufacturing circles and was equally prominent and honored in all of his relations to the public life and its intellectual and moral progress. He left the impress of his individuality for good upon the community in such a way that will cause his memory to be enshrined in the hearts of those who knew him for years to come.

MADISON M. FAST.

Madison M. Fast belongs to one of the old and substantial families of Huron county, Ohio, and during his busy life has proven himself worthy of his forebears who were brave, self-reliant men. He was born March 26, 1857, on the farm adjoining his present one in Richmond township, and is a son of E. W. and Hannah (Roberts) Fast; a grandson of Jacob and Catherine (Rex) Fast and Jacob and Lucinda Roberts, and great-grandson of the redoubtable Christian Fast, Revolutionary soldier and Indian fighter. Christian Fast had many remarkable adventures among the Indians, being one of five white men captured by the savages. They camped on the banks of the Maumee river, and shot three of their prisoners, and burned one of them, Colonel Crawford at the stake. Fortunately Christian Fast was able to arouse their superstitious fears and so they spared his life, staining his skin to resemble their own and putting rings in his nose and ears. They tried to induce him to marry a squaw and become one of them, but the valiant white man watched his opportunity and after six months' captivity, managed to escape one night, swimming across the Maumee river. His captors missed him and tried to stop his escape by firing at him, but although the shots fell all about him in the water, he reached the opposite bank unhurt and was able to reach a white settlement three miles distant, although closely pursued by the Indians.

E. W. Fast, father of Madison M. Fast, is now living on the homestead south of that of Madison M. Fast, who operates it for him, the father having retired from active life after many years, spent in farming. While not enrolled as a member of the United Brethren church, he has always been much interested in its work and a liberal contributor to it, and he donated the land on which stands the present church of the denomination in Richmond township. The church edifice adjoins his house. He and his wife became the parents of the following children: Jane, who married Jacob Walker; Mary, who married Scott Sewalt;

Madison M., who is mentioned below; Elmer; Leroy, who is deceased; and Ida, who married Weadel Skidmore.

Madison M. Fast was married October 10, 1882, to Susan Resh, a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Thomas) Resh, both natives of Pennsylvania, where they were married, but later removed to Richland county, Ohio, and later to Huron county. Their children were: Henry; Catherine, who married Wesley Sparks; Jacob, who went west and was never heard of afterward; Joseph, who is deceased; Samuel; Mary Anne, who married George W. Ritz; Sarah, who died, married Isaac Snavley; William; and Mrs. Fast. Mr. and Mrs. Fast had six children: Ollie M., who married Joseph Mann; Orin; Leroy; Russell; Effie, who is deceased, and Daisy.

Mr. Fast owns ninety-six acres of fine farming land in Richmond township, which he has brought to a good state of cultivation, and he operates it in conjunction with the farm of his father. He has been road supervisor and school director, and in his political views, he is a democrat and is earnest in the support of his party. His family belong to the United Brethren church. The standing of Mr. Fast in his community both as a farmer and citizen is high, and he has attained it through honorable methods and close attention to his work.

HUBBARD D. PALMER.

Hubbard D. Palmer occupies one of the most beautiful country homes of Huron county, situated in the midst of two hundred acres of valuable land in Fitchville township. He has other desirable property elsewhere and as the result of his well directed business affairs in former years, is now numbered among the men of affluence in his community. He was born in Fitchville township, this county. His father, Seeley Palmer, was one of the earliest settlers of the county and aided in building the first frame house in Norwalk.

Spending his youthful days in the place of his nativity, Hubbard D. Palmer pursued his education in the public schools, continuing his studies in the Fitchville high school of which Colonel De Wolff was then the superintendent. He entered business life in connection with the construction of the Western Union Telegraph lines at the age of sixteen years, gaining practical experience that was of the greatest benefit to the government when he became connected with the Union army in the Civil war. He was nineteen years of age when he started for California by way of the isthmus. They were about ten days in making the trip across Panama and it required more than forty days to complete the journey to San Francisco. On reaching the Golden state, Mr. Palmer turned his attention to mining and located and bought several claims. He followed hydraulic mining in the mountains and met with fair success, the largest pure nugget which he took out weighing sixteen and a half ounces. He wears a solid plain gold ring made from gold which he took out of the mines himself and cherishes it with much pride. Altogether, he was quite successful while in California and, well pleased with his trip, he returned to Huron county, Ohio, after a sojourn of three years in the far west. He spent three weeks in visiting with his parents and

relatives and then went south to visit his brother-in-law, Dennis Doren, who was located at the general headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, holding the position of general superintendent of construction of heavy and field telegraph wires for the army. At that time, General Thomas T. Eckert was the general superintendent of the telegraph department and of the quartermaster's office in the general war department, and immediately after Mr. Palmer's arrival in the south, learning that he had been trained in the business of constructing telegraph lines, General Eckert influenced him to become the assistant of Mr. Doren. He consented and remained at such work until the close of the war. When the war was over, General Eckert was made president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, remaining as its chief executive until about two years ago, when he was elected president of the board of directors, which position he still holds. Mr. Doren became superintendent of construction of the Western Union Telegraph Company in the United States and Canada, and was also made president of the Cable Construction Company, continuing in that capacity until his death. Mr. Palmer's duty while in the army included the laying of lines from the corps to the general headquarters. The heavy wires were laid on poles and the field wires were strung on light socket poles and could be taken down and removed almost instantly. The manner in which they were put up enabled one to construct from twenty-five to thirty-five miles per day. They were strung from a reel fastened to the back of mules and were taken in by a similar method. The corps wires were all connected in a wagon expressly constructed for that purpose containing a battery and if necessary the message could then be repeated from the wagon, over the heavy wire to Washington. Mr. Palmer was a witness of every important battle in the east fought from the time that General Burnside took charge of the Army of the Potomac until the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse. Mr. Palmer was always at general headquarters except for the time he was out building lines to the general headquarters. A large number of their corps were captured and several died at Andersonville prison.

After the war, Mr. Palmer remained with the Western Union Telegraph Company for about two years, repairing its lines which had been destroyed during the period of hostilities. He afterward had full charge, under Mr. Doren, of the construction of overland cable lines from Bangor, Maine, to St. Johns, New Brunswick, through Halifax and Nova Scotia to Plaster Cove, Great Britain, connecting there with the cable. Thus he was busily engaged for several years, but at length his health failed him and since then he has spent most of his time in Missouri and Ohio. For a period he was engaged in the grocery business and was also busy in looking after his landed interests. He is the owner of more than three hundred acres of rich and productive land. His home place is a farm of two hundred acres in Fitchville township, supplied with all modern improvements, including a beautiful residence which he erected and which is one of the fine country homes of Huron county. He is also a director of the Huron County Bank and his investments have at all times been judiciously placed, so that he is deriving therefrom a substantial income.

Mr. Palmer has been twice married. In 1865, he wedded Miss Euphronia Knapp, who passed away about the year 1878. In November, 1906, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Mina Waterhouse, a daughter of

Israel L. Waterhouse, who was born in Schoharie county, New York, in 1819. His mother bore the maiden name of Miss Hannah Davis and was a daughter of Aaron Davis, one of the heroes of Bunker Hill and a cousin of Commodore Perry. She had a great-uncle who preached a sermon in a Quaker church in Pennsylvania at the remarkable old age of one hundred and four years. She lived to the very advanced age of ninety-four years. The Davis family was of English lineage.

Israel L. Waterhouse, the father of Mrs. Palmer, came to Ohio in 1848. He was a well educated man and in his younger years taught school. Later he took up the occupation of farming which he continued to follow until his retirement from active business life in the '80s. He then removed to New London, Ohio, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest, save for the active participation which he took in the public life of the community. After his removal to New London, he was elected mayor of the town, also served as a member of the city council and in other offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. His political allegiance was given to the republican party. He assisted in building the numerous churches in New London and, although not a member of any, was always a strong supporter of and a liberal contributor to all. His death occurred October 16, 1897, when he had reached the age of seventy-eight years. On the 4th of November, 1849, he had married Hannah M. Stowe, who was born in Skaneateles, New York, September 7, 1828. They had a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters, all of whom are yet living. Among this number is Mrs. Palmer.

In his political faith, Mr. Palmer is also a republican and has always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day although not a politician in the sense of office seeking. His religious belief accords with the teachings of the Congregational church. His has been an interesting and eventful life and if written in detail this history would contain many thrilling chapters covering his California experiences in the early mining days, his duty on the frontier in the Civil war and his connection with the construction of telegraph lines in the United States. While in later years he has lived more quietly he has manifested the same sterling qualities which have always been characteristic of him and which have gained him the high position which he occupies in the regard of his fellow-men.

MRS. EMALINE McFARLAND.

Mrs. Emaline McFarland is numbered among Huron county's residents who have long lived in this section of the state, and she has a very wide and favorable acquaintance, many who know her entertaining for her warm regard. She was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, August 20, 1836, and is a daughter of Jacob and Rebecca (Brubaker) Truxell. They, too, were natives of the Keystone state, where they lived until after their marriage and, on removing westward, they took up their abode in Ripley township, Huron county, Ohio, and became identified with the farming interests of the locality in which they settled.

Their daughter, Emaline Truxell, was reared under the parental roof and was educated in the public schools and was early trained to the duties of the household so that she was well qualified to take charge of a home of her own at the time of her marriage. In early womanhood, she gave her hand and heart to Archibald McFarland, who was born in Greenfield township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 31st of October, 1822, and was a son of Archibald and Anna (Easter) McFarland. Following their marriage the young couple began their domestic life upon a farm in this county and throughout his remaining days Mr. McFarland carried on general agricultural pursuits. He was a man of industry and his diligence and determination, which were among his salient characteristics, brought him a comfortable living and enabled him to leave his family in pleasant circumstances.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. McFarland were born two sons and a daughter, but the eldest, Frank Easter, who was born in 1858, is now deceased. The others are: Julia A., born in 1861; and Archibald Kent, born in 1863. At his death Mr. McFarland left to his family seventy acres of rich and productive land and through the careful management of their property and wise conduct of their business affairs they have increased their holdings until the farm now comprises one hundred and eight acres of rich land together with a lot of two and a half acres at North Fairfield, whereon Mrs. McFarland now makes her home. She has passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey and as she has spent the greater part of her time in Huron county she has a very wide acquaintance here, while her many good traits of heart and mind have endeared her to those with whom she has been brought in contact.

CLAUDE L. LATHAM.

Claude L. Latham, an energetic, enterprising and progressive agriculturist of Ridgefield township, is devoting his time and energies to the cultivation of his farm of sixty-one acres. He was born in that township on the 13th of October, 1881, his parents being Hardica L. and Ida (Fish) Latham. William Latham, the paternal grandfather of our subject, made his way westward at an early day, becoming a pioneer settler of Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio. His family numbered eight children, those still living being Orville, Clayton, Bretna and Ionia, while the deceased are Zahm, Hardica L., Delilah and Hilda.

Hardica L. Latham, the father of Claude L., was born in Lyme township, this county, in 1849, was educated in the public schools of Monroeville and when a youth of eighteen years went west, traveling quite extensively over that section of the country beyond the Mississippi. Finally he arrived in California where he remained for two years. He was also at sea for a period, sailing between California and South American ports. Returning to Ohio he went upon the farm where his son, Claude L., now lives, in Ridgefield township, Huron county, and was successfully identified with agriculture throughout the remainder of his active business career. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and was quite prominent politically, being recognized as one of the leading local representatives of the democracy. He capably served in the position of township trustee for several years and was well known and highly esteemed throughout the community. He was a



HARDICA L. LATHAM

lover of fine horses and owned a number of them. In manner he was genial, courteous and sociable, and these qualities made him very popular so that his death was greatly deplored by many friends when in 1904 he was called to the home beyond. His wife, who was born in Ridgefield township in 1852, was a daughter of Major John Fish, who won his title by service in the war of 1812. He was born March 6, 1786, in New York, and served all through the second war with England. In 1815 he removed to Licking county, Ohio, and ten years later came to Huron county, where he made his home until called to his final rest on the 13th of September, 1866.¹ Mrs. Latham still survives her husband and is yet a resident of this county. Their union was blessed with two children, Claude L. and Goldie C. The latter now makes her home with her mother.

Claude L. Latham attended the district schools in pursuit of an education and was also a student in Monroeville for a time. He was trained to farm work, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and this line of activity has since claimed his attention. He now owns an excellent farm of sixty-one acres in Ridgefield township, on which he has placed many substantial improvements. It is a well developed tract of land which is naturally rich and productive and the alluvial soil brings forth bounteous harvests in reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields.

On the 3rd of January, 1905, Mr. Latham was united in marriage to Miss Ada Lockwood, a daughter of James C. and Sarah Lockwood, who were early settlers of this county. The Lockwood family, originally from England, settled at Norwalk, Connecticut, while this country was still numbered among the colonial possessions of Great Britain, and several members of the family participated in the Revolutionary war which brought independence to the nation. Mrs. Latham's great-grandfather, George Lockwood, built what is known today as the Lockwood road, extending from Norwalk to Milan, Ohio. Her grandfather, Stephen Lockwood, was a native of Allen's Corners, Huron county. He was the first white male child born in Huron county, his natal year being 1821. He served as a soldier of the Civil war, defending the interests of the Union. He became a prominent farmer and stock dealer of this part of the state and was engaged in general merchandising in Milan at the time of the disastrous fire there, which caused him losses amounting to thirty-three thousand dollars. His wife, Mrs. Sarah Lockwood, was a native of Norwalk, Connecticut, born in 1827 and came to Huron county with her parents. James C. Lockwood, the father of Mrs. Latham, was born in Huron county in September, 1854. Having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Miss Sarah Beekley, who was born in Milan, Ohio, in 1853. Her father, Anthony Beekley, was a native of Baden, Germany, and came to America when sixteen years of age. He devoted his life to carpentering and to school teaching and was also a musician of considerable note. For eight years he engaged in teaching in the Catholic school at Milan. He, too, was a veteran of the Civil war and died in 1906. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Barbara Kellar, was a native of Switzerland and unto them were born six children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Claude L. Latham have been born two children, Ida L. and Howard L. Fraternally Mr. Latham is identified with the Masonic lodge at Norwalk and is a worthy exemplar of the craft. He has always made his home in Ridgefield township and, though still a young man, has also attained a creditable

measure of success in the conduct of his farming interests. The name of Latham has figured prominently in the annals of this county from pioneer times down to the present and the subject of this review has ever fully sustained the honorable reputation borne by his father and grandfather.

LOUIS W. WICKHAM.

The name of Wickham is well in Norwalk in connection with the practice of law, to which profession Louis W. Wickham gives his attention. He was born in this city, November 30, 1866, and is a son of Judge C. P. Wickham, of whom extended mention is made on another page of this work. His grandfather was Judge Frederick Wickham, a representative of an old New England family of Puritan ancestry. The first of the name to come to the west was William Wickham, a native of Rhode Island, and the grandfather of Frederick Wickham.

In the public schools of this city Louis W. Wickham pursued his early education and afterward attended the preparatory school of the Western Reserve University, while later he became a student in Princeton University. He then studied law with his father and was admitted to the bar in 1889, after which he began practice in Norwalk. He has served for five years as prosecuting attorney of Huron county, being elected in 1903 and again in 1906. He was in partnership with his father until September, 1908, since which time he has practiced alone.

In 1892, Mr. Wickham was married to Miss Ellen E. Benedict, a daughter of David D. Benedict, of an old Huron county family. They have four children: Susan, Cora, Fred and Annabelle. Mr. Wickham is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Mount Vennon Lodge, F. & A. M.; Huron Chapter, R. A. M.; and Norwalk Commandery, K. T., of which he is at present eminent commander.

FRED D. PIERCE.

Fred D. Pierce, a native of Wakeman township, his birth having occurred April 22, 1859, is a representative of a family long and prominently connected with the annals of this township. His grandfather, Amile P. Pierce, brought his family from South Britain, Connecticut, in 1817, arriving in this locality about the same time that C. C. Canfield and Samuel Bristol, accompanied by their families, settled here. These three families constituted the first while settlers in Wakeman township. The district was then wild, its lands unclaimed and its resources undeveloped and Mr. Pierce was obliged to clear the land, then covered by a dense forest, in order to build a cabin for the shelter of his family. Men of the present period can scarcely realize the struggles and dangers which attended the pioneer settlers, the heroism and self-sacrifice of lives passed upon the borders of civilization, the hardships endured, the difficulties overcome. Mr. Pierce, with characteristic energy, participated in the slow, persistent work of development

which was necessary to reclaim this land for the purposes of civilization and, permitting no obstacles to overcome his determination and undaunted courage, eventually gained a gratifying measure of success in his agricultural enterprise, becoming a prosperous farmer and extensive land owner. He was a man of strong, sterling character, his help and counsel being sought by many of the early settlers. He married Miss Electa Blackman ere his removal west and in their family were six children, all of whom attained maturity, but have now passed away. This number included: Minott; Lemuel; David S.; Bennett, who was drowned in the Defiance river, leaving a family to mourn his loss; Fanny, who became the wife of Horace J. Beecher of Wakeman and both are now deceased; and Ann, who became the wife of Dr. Johnson, of Oberlin.

Of this family David S. Pierce became the father of our subject. He was reared upon the old homestead farm, which he later continued to operate, and was also very successful in his business affairs. A fine specimen of American manhood, he became actively and helpfully identified with the public affairs of the locality, also championing any causes that tended to better the conditions or further the development of the community. He was frequently called to fill various township offices and was always faithful and loyal to the trust imposed in him. He married Miss Julia A. Bunce and their family consisted of two children: Fred D., of this review, and Jennie I., now Mrs. Edward P. Canfield. The father passed away October 22, 1870, his remains being interred at Wakeman, while his wife is still surviving and in her eighty fourth year is in good health and vigor.

Fred D. Pierce, whose name introduces this sketch, was reared upon the old homestead, his time being passed in the pursuits common to the country lad. He attended the schools of Wakeman in the acquirement of his education and remained upon the home farm for a number of years, cultivating the fields and making a specialty of raising thoroughbred Hereford cattle. In 1895, however, he sold the place and removed to Wakeman, where he engaged in the hay and grain business and became a very extensive dealer in those products. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him a gratifying degree of prosperity.

Throughout the years of his residence in Wakeman, Mr. Pierce has taken a deep interest in public matters. He is a stalwart republican in politics and served several terms as township trustee, while in 1897, he was appointed postmaster of Wakeman under President McKinley, and is still incumbent in that office, now serving in his third term and performing his duties therein in a way that has gained the approbation and approval of his fellowmen. At the time of his appointment the postoffice at Wakeman was a fourth-class office, but during his terms of service, the business has greatly increased, causing the office to be advanced to the third-class, the incumbent becoming a presidential appointee. Four rural routes have been established, thus supplying free mail delivery to every point in the township.

Mr. Pierce was united in marriage on the 18th of October, 1880, to Miss Ida E. Barnes, a daughter of George A. and Elizabeth (Sherman) Barnes. Both the Barnes and Sherman families are old residents of Wakeman county, engaged in agricultural pursuits and prominent in the affairs of the community. Mr. Barnes

passed away in February, 1888, and is still survived by his wife. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Pierce has been blessed with two sons, David E. and Idane B. The former is in business in Elyria, while the latter is associated with his father in his hay and grain enterprise. After nine years of happy wedded life, Mr. Pierce was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 16th of April, 1889. Mr. Pierce is public-spirited in his citizenship, advocating all measures which tend toward the general welfare of the community, while the matter of public improvements is a cause dear to his heart. Honest and loyal in all relations of life, he has gained the high regard and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact and the consensus of public opinion accords him a high place among the representative and prominent citizens of Wakeman.

SHERMAN O. NOBLE.

Sherman O. Noble, one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of Ripley township, owning and operating an excellent farm of three hundred and ten acres, was born October 8, 1867, in this township, his parents being W. P. and Eliza (Starkey) Noble. The former, who was born in Richland county in 1839, was a son of Harvey Noble and a brother of William, James, John, Margaret, Minerva and Mary Noble. Throughout his active career, he followed the occupation of farming but is now living retired in Greenwich, in the enjoyment of well earned rest. In early life, he was a prominent figure in community affairs, serving as county commissioner for six years while he likewise filled the office of township trustee and also of land appraiser. He married Eliza Starkey, a daughter of James Starkey of Virginia and the eldest in a family of seven children born unto her parents, the others being Wesley, Reuben, Abraham, Anderson, Jane and Levina. Unto W. P. Noble and his wife were born eleven children, three of whom died in infancy. Those who survived were: Theodore, Sherman, Mina, Elmer C., Allen, Hayes, Winnie and Nellie.

Sherman O. Noble spent the period of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm and is indebted to the district school system for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. When not engaged with his text-books, he assisted his father in the work of the fields and early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the country lad. He remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, when, entering business life on his own account, he wisely chose as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared. He has since that time directed his energies toward agricultural pursuits, being the owner of an excellent farm of three hundred and ten acres, situated in Ripley township, which, under the care and labor bestowed upon it, has become one of the valuable and desirable properties of the township. In addition to his general farming, he devotes much time to stock interests, being an extensive buyer and shipper of general stock, while he makes a specialty of breeding heavy draft horses and also thoroughbred short-horned cattle. He is a stockholder in the Clinton Air Line Telephone Company, and his various business interests, which are capably con-

ducted along modern and progressive lines, are proving a source of gratifying and substantial income.

It was in July, 1893, that Mr. Noble was united in marriage to Miss Alice Cherry, the youngest daughter of William and Emma (Hester) Cherry, her sisters being Lina and Rose. As the years have come and gone the home of Mr. and Mrs. Noble has been blessed with three children, namely: Paul, who was born in 1895; Nona, whose birth occurred in 1897; and Thelma, born in 1898. At the polls Mr. Noble gives his allegiance to the republican party, which organization he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is now serving his fourth term as township trustee, which office he is filling with entire credit to himself. He is public-spirited in his citizenship, lending his aid to all measures which have for their object the growth and welfare of the community. He is a man of excellent business ability and sound judgment, and the success which he today enjoys has come to him as the result of his own labor, economy and indomitable energy.

MATHIAS CLAUS.

Mathias Claus, a retired farmer of Sherman township, Huron county, and the owner of one hundred and thirty-three acres of fine land, was born in Germany, October 20, 1834, and is the son of Mathias and Mary Claus. The parents came to this country with their family in 1852, and settled in Sherman township, where they bought forty acres of land, on which was a log cabin. In this, they made their home for about five years, and then sold that land, buying a larger tract in the same township, which was their home until they were called to their final rest. The father attained the advanced age of eighty-two, but the mother was granted only forty years. By their union, were born five children: Helen, the widow of a Mr. Fisher, and a resident of Bellevue, Ohio; Martin, a resident of Sherman township; Mathias; and George, of Sherman township.

Mathias Claus was but fifteen years of age when his parents came to this county and here he has made his home ever since. He received the greater part of his education in the land of his birth, but after locating here attended night school for a time to become proficient in the English language. He began to learn agricultural pursuits in his early youth and has devoted his life to that calling. On his present farm, he has lived for a period of thirty-seven years and during this time has greatly improved its condition and increased its value beyond what it was when he purchased it from John Strupe. For a short period, however, he left the quiet life on the farm for the noise and danger of the battlefield, for in 1864, he enlisted in Company C, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He joined his regiment at Sandusky, Ohio, and went to Camp Chase, from there going to Nashville, Tennessee. He was in a number of battles and skirmishes in and about Nashville, and at the battle of Franklin, was severely injured by jumping over a breastwork. In 1865, he was mustered out at Nashville, after which he returned to his home and has engaged in farming ever since

though at present he has resigned the active duties of life and has consigned the management of the place to his able sons.

On the 2d of January, 1867, Mr. Claus married Miss Josephine Shank, a daughter of Frank and Helen Shank, of Sherman township. Mrs. Claus was born in Germany, February 14, 1846, and came to this country with her father at the age of eighteen. They settled in Norwich township, where the father died at the age of seventy-five. The mother had passed away many years before in Germany, being only forty-two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Shank were the parents of six children, four of whom are living, the two oldest sons, Frank and Benjamin, having passed away. Of the others, Elias lives in Norwich township; Josephine is the wife of our subject; Carrie is living in Fremont and Agnes in Tiffin, Ohio.

Mr and Mrs. Claus have been blessed with nine children: Frank, living at home; Carrie, the wife of Frank A. Heddle, of Monroeville and the mother of four children: Clarence, Loretta, Irene and Walter; Mary, the wife of John Rossman, of Monroeville and the mother of two children: Oliva and Lucien; Josephine, who is the wife of Ed. G. Bick, of Peru township and has one daughter, Beatrice; William, who married Miss Florence Holliday, lives in Peru township, and has three children: Colletta, Donald and Josephine; Louisa, living at home; Joseph, who lives in Peru township; and two youngest, Emma and Fred, both at home. The family are all members of the Catholic church at Bismarck.

Mr. Claus has taken an active part in local affairs as a strong republican and has served as road superintendent as the choice of his party. He has also for several terms been a member of the school board, giving his aid to any progressive movements in the cause of local education. After having put aside the more onerous of his life's duties and responsibilities, he lives in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil and in the good will of those who know him, for he is a man who has made and retains many stanch friends.

WILLIAM T. SILSBY.

One of the notable places of Greenwich township is the Fairmount Stock Farm, not only because of its old rural beauty and completeness but for the public-spirited character of its proprietor, William T. Silsby. He was born on the 15th of April, 1868, in East Cleveland, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, and is the son of Sylvester and Beulah (Brockway) Silsby. The mother was a native of Utica, New York, but the father was born in Ackworth, Connecticut, and was a direct descendant of one of the pilgrims who came to this country in the historic Mayflower. During their childhood Mr. and Mrs. Silsby were brought to Ohio by their respective parents, the families locating in East Cleveland, the father becoming the owner and operator of stone quarries but later in life turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He died in August, 1894, honored and respected by all who knew him, and his wife passed away in December, 1898.

William T. Silsby was liberally educated in the public schools of Cleveland and was reared among the busy activities of a farm near that growing city. Here he



WILLIAM T. SULSKY AND FAMILY

laid the foundation stone of all successful life—the power and spirit of work. After his marriage he located in Dawson, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where for one year he was employed as foreman of the works of the W. J. Raney Coal & Coke Company but at the end of that time he returned to Cleveland and the following six years were devoted to farming and to the dairy business. Selling his interests in that city in 1899, he came to Huron county and purchased the old Cyrus Mead farm of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land in Greenwich township. This is a well improved place and to its further development and cultivation he has since devoted his energies, being successfully engaged in both general farming and stock-raising. He makes a specialty of breeding fine draft horses and short horned cattle and the products of the Fairmount Stock Farm have become widely known for their excellence. One of his sons, Charles W., is devoting considerable attention to the raising of rose comb white Leghorn chickens. In the midst of the farm stands a fine country home equipped with all of the modern appliances, the house and barns being lighted by a private electric plant and supplied with water by their own system of waterworks. Here hospitality is dispensed and friends served unstintedly, the Silsbys being noted for much graciousness the countryside over.

It was on the 31st of March, 1891, that Mr. Silsby was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Stoltzenberg, a daughter of Christian and Fredrika (Yurand) Stoltzenberg, of Cleveland. Her father, who was a well known farmer and hotel-keeper, and was highly respected, died some years ago, but her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Silsby have become the parents of seven children, all sons, namely: Ralph H., deceased; Christopher C.; Charles W.; Oliver P.; Harry Z.; Valentine T.; and Lincoln W. All have been provided with excellent educational privileges, Mr. and Mrs. Silsby taking an active interest in educational affairs and realizing the value of good school privileges. Christopher C. is attending the Greenwich high school and is an enthusiastic ball player and all around athlete.

In addition to his other business Mr. Silsby was one of the promoters of the Clinton Airline Telephone Company, of which he is now president and which makes a specialty of rural service. This company has only been in existence for the past four years but already has about five hundred patrons and is connected with other rural lines, giving free service to more than one thousand patrons. At this rate of rapid growth the Clinton Airline bids fair to become one of the leading telephone companies of the state.

A man who attends successfully to his own private interests is generally willing to lend his talents to the prosecution of public interests. With fine public spirit Mr. Silsby has always entered actively into the public life of the community in which he has happened to reside. The late movement for good roads has found in him an especially active friend, and he was sincere and successful in his advocacy of the forty thousand dollar bond issue to improve Greenwich township roads. Having reared a family of bright children, he naturally has always been a great friend of education and the idea of the centralized school has appealed strongly to him. But it is useless to further enumerate the public improvements which have at different times secured his support, for Mr. Silsby has always been in the forefront in the battle for the uplift of society. A democrat in politics, Mr.

Silsby is active in the interests of his party. He is a member of the county board of elections and while a party man, he has the name of being fair to the opposition.

Socially he is a member of O. K. Lodge, No. 616, K. P., and is also identified with the Greenwich Lodge, No. 640, I. O. O. F. In the former he is a past chancellor and is at present a member of the board of trustees of the lodge. He is a great worker while he works, but he believes in the maxim "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." In season therefore he indulges in hunting and fishing and is known as one of the best sportsmen in the township.

LEWIS WOODRUFF.

Lewis Woodruff is an active factor in business circles in Fairfield township, where he owns and occupies a farm of one hundred and thirty acres. His attention, however, is not all given to the tilling of the soil for he also devotes some time to carpentering and is leading a very busy and useful life. He is numbered among the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Peru township on the 7th of April, 1852. His parents were Chancey and Juliet (Sanders) Woodruff, the former born in Huron county in 1820 and the latter in Peru township in 1827. The paternal grandfather of our subject was George Woodruff, while the maternal grandparents were John and Maria (Cleary) Sanders. Unto the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Chancey Woodruff were born two sons and a daughter: Lewis, Stanley and Nellie.

The youthful days of Lewis Woodruff were quietly passed in the pursuits of the home farm. He obtained his education in the public schools and through the periods of vacation worked in the fields, assisting his father in their development. He was early trained to habits of industry and economy and learned valuable lessons concerning persistency of purpose and unfaltering diligence.

On the 19th of January, 1876, Mr. Woodruff was married to Miss Addie Felton, who was born in Norwich township, Huron county, February 13, 1855. Her father, Ephraim Felton, was a son of James and Eunice (Wheeler) Felton, and, having arrived at years of maturity, he wedded Mary Gilson, by whom he had three children: Asa, Celia and Melissa. For his second wife he married Mary Ann Fitch, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, in 1810 and was a daughter of Berlin and Susanna (Hawks) Fitch. The children of the second union were: Addie, Mary, Lillian and Emma. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff has been blessed with five children: Marion, who was born in 1877; Stanley, in 1878; Anna, in 1880; Myrtle, in 1886; and Harry, in 1889.

Since attaining his majority Lewis has resided upon a farm and is the owner of one hundred and thirty acres of productive land which is well improved and returns to him a gratifying income because of the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields. He is now working at the carpenter's trade and in that department of business displays skill and ability, possessing much natural mechanical ability and ingenuity. In community affairs, he is interested, co-operating in many measures for the general good. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for six years, he served as a trustee of Fairfield township.

Fraternally he is connected with the Maccabees and the Grange. Having spent his entire life in this locality, he has a wide acquaintance and his record as a business man and citizen entitles him to the friendly regard in which he is uniformly held.

ALBION D. MAYNARD.

Albion D. Maynard, who for a number of years combined the occupation of farming with his trade as a blacksmith, is now conducting a blacksmith and repair shop in Boughtonville. He was born in Ripley township, January 12, 1848, and is a son of Deranzil and Annis (Ingersoll) Maynard. The father was born in the state of New York in 1812 and was a son of David and Nancy Maynard, who were the parents of nine children: David, John, Deranzil, George, Ira, Mary, Laura, Lucy and Thomas. The mother was born January 19, 1816, and was a daughter of Ralph Ingersoll and his wife. To them were born seven children: Luther, Lewis, Darius, Harriet, Amanda, Annis and Polly. To Mr. and Mrs. Deranzil Maynard have been born six children: Nancy F., David A., Albion D., Robert A., Lucy L. and Mortimer I. The father followed the life of a farmer and was active in the public affairs of his township, not shunning the duties of office when the people wished so to honor him. He has been a stanch republican since that party was organized to supplant the old line whigs, and to support the nation in its hour of need.

The son of a farmer, it was but natural that Albion D. Maynard should follow the same kind of work. In his youth, however, he learned the trade of a blacksmith and finding it profitable has from time to time engaged exclusively in practicing it. For twenty years, he lived in Michigan, farming and working at his trade. Ohio proved to be the state with the stronger attractions and Mr. Maynard returned to his home where he has remained since. His reputation as a skilled workman having been made, the Rinehart & Dennis Construction Company engaged him several years ago to act as foreman over those engaged in their carpenter and trestle work. He was employed by that firm for four years but since the expiration of that time he has not sought other positions as he finds he has all he can do with the work that is brought into his shop.

Mr. Maynard was still in the first years of his young manhood when, on the 28th of August, 1870, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Downey. She was born in Lorain county, Ohio February 4, 1852, and is a daughter of David L. and Ann (Wilkinson) Downey, the former a native of New York, the latter a Canadian. They were the parents of Orilla, Elizabeth, Priscilla, Elizabeth, Doris, Catherine, Sarah, Flora and Lorenzo. Mr. and Mrs. Maynard's union has been blessed with three children, all of whom have married and established homes of their own. Clifford, born September 23, 1873, married Miss Bertie Cleverly and they have one child, Donald. Iva, born in 1875, married Frank Gleason. Annis, born September 20, 1878, married Cortland Miller, who is a minister and is located at Walton, Indiana.

The family were reared in the Christian church and still live up to its teachings in so far as they are able. Though not a politician nor active in public affairs,

Mr. Maynard never misses an opportunity to cast his vote for the republican candidates, feeling that it is the duty of every citizen to exercise his right to ballot and believing that that party makes for the stability and progress of the nation's government. A hard working man and conscientious, he has made firm friends among his fellow members of the Tribe of Ben Hur.

DOWNING H. YOUNG, M. D.

Dr. Downing H. Young, whose ability is manifest in the large practice which is accorded him in Wakeman and throughout the surrounding country, was born October 7, 1842, in Mansfield, Ohio, his parents being Downing H. and Angeline (Marvin) Young. The grandfather Lemuel Young was a Virginian and came to Ohio at a very early date, settling in Holmes county, near Millersburg. He devoted his entire life to the occupation of farming. His son Downing H. Young was born in Virginia, August 6, 1816, and left home when sixteen years of age. He then went to Shelby, Ohio, where he remained for two years, after which he went to Peru, Ohio, and learned the trade of blacksmithing. He followed that for only a brief period, however. Subsequent to his marriage, which occurred on the 6th of September, 1836, he engaged in merchandising and while devoting his attention to the conduct of his store he also took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar. He practiced both in Shelby and Mansfield, becoming a resident of the latter city and as the years passed he attained eminence in his profession. He was very active in the days of the Civil war, doing much toward raising troops and giving four sons to the service. Throughout his entire life his citizenship was of a most loyal and progressive character, his cooperation being always counted upon to further any movement for the public good. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Angeline Marvin, was the eldest of fourteen children and the first white child born in Sharon township, Richland county, Ohio, on the site of what is now the city of Shelby. Her parents were Stephen and Sarah (Moyer) Marvin, Connecticut people, who came to Ohio about 1814. Her maternal grandmother in her maidenhood bore the family name of Burr and was a close relative of Aaron Burr. Her family had from the government some of the "Fireland Land Script" for property destroyed by the British. This brought the Moyer family to Ohio and they located land on Blackfork at Shelby, developing there a homestead property which is still in possession of their descendants.

Downing H. and Angeline (Marvin) Young had a family of eleven children: Hercelia J.; Mary A.; Elmira A.; Samuel Hinkley; Henry St. John; Andrew Jackson; Downing Howard; Stephen Marvin; Daniel Sherwood; Sarah Angeline; and Grace. Of these Hercelia J., Elmira, Downing, Stephen and Sarah are still living. One son, Samuel H. Young, was a member of Company C, First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Captain John McLaughlin, enlisting in response to the first call for three months' troops. He participated in the first battle of Bull Run and on the expiration of his term of enlistment he rejoined the army as a member of Company C, Sixty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to Sherman's brigade. He participated in a number

of contests with the enemy and was injured at the battle of Pittsburg Landing. He bore a lieutenant's commission, but his injury necessitated his resignation from the service. Later when he had sufficiently recovered he joined Company H, of the One Hundred and Twenty-eight Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to garrison duty on Johnsons Island. He was also a lieutenant in this organization and at the close of the war received a lieutenant's commission in the regular army. He was relieved from duty in 1866 and, returning home, took up newspaper work as editor and publisher of the Shelby Chronicle, continuing in active connection with that paper until his death in 1869. Another son, Henry St. John, was a member of Company C, Sixty-fifth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was a sergeant and was killed at the battle of Stone River. A third son, Andrew Jackson, was a member of Company C, Sixty-fifth Regiment of Ohio Infantry and died in Danville, Kentucky, from pneumonia contracted while on the line of duty. Downing H. Young, of this review, was also a soldier, enlisting in Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-eight Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war, doing post duty at Johnsons Island. A son-in-law, Jerome B. Howard, who was the husband of Elmira Young, was a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Regiment and while on his way from Columbus, where he had been on detailed duty, to join his command, he was captured and sent to Andersonville prison, where he died. He was a man of fine education and high attainments. After her husband's death his widow studied medicine, winning her degree in the Womans' College in New York in 1868. She then located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she practiced for many years and was eminently successful. She chaperoned a company of young ladies from Cincinnati to the Vienna exposition and during that time took a post-graduate course at the Vienna Hospital. She has now retired from active practice, however, and resides with her son Hiram M., who is an electrical expert, at Palmyra, Illinois. Another son, Jerome B., an editor of the Phonographic Magazine of Cincinnati, is also proprietor of the Pitman shorthand system and likewise a musician of much renown. The military record of this family is certainly a remarkably one and their history in other directions is that of successful achievement.

With his family Downing H. Young, Sr., removed to Toledo, Ohio, in 1857, and there engaged in the practice of law until June, 1860, when he established his home at New Haven, Huron county, where he resided until his death and where the family home it yet maintained. For many years, they have been valued and respected citizens of that district.

Downing H. Young, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the schools of Mansfield, Toledo and New Haven, Ohio. His time was largely spent in school up to the outbreak of the Civil war and following the close of hostilities he entered the medical department of the University of Wooster at Cleveland in 1865. He was graduated in May, 1871, and in the intervening years has since given his time, energies and attention to his profession and duties.

On the 31st of December, 1868, Dr. Young was married to Miss Elizabeth Merrihew, a daughter of Jesse and Charlotte (Lyon) Merrihew, of Knox county, Ohio. They became the parents of two children: Andy Jason and Charlotte M., both of whom still survive, but the mother died in April, 1898. The son is mar-

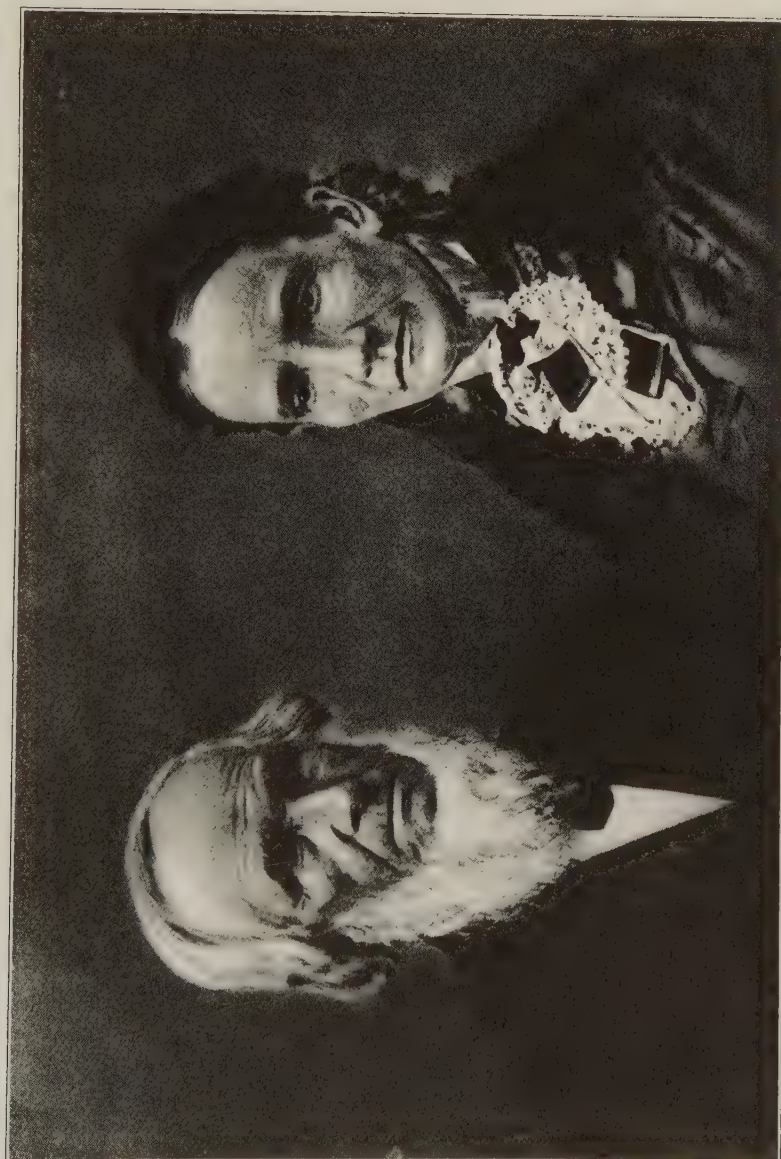
ried and resides in Winfield, Kansas, while the daughter is now the wife of Wallace Wyandt, of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Dr. Young was married a second time December 5, 1900, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Anna Bunelle, of Wakeman.

Dr. Young began the practice of his profession in Steuben, Huron county, where he remained for three years and then went to Delaware county, Ohio, where he spent three and one-half years. He was afterward located at Chicago Junction until 1901, when he came to Wakeman, where he has since practiced. He has always been a close student of everything bearing upon his chosen line of work and reading and investigation have kept him in close touch with the advance of the profession. For four years, he was the coroner of Huron county and was emergency surgeon for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad from 1887 until 1901. At the present writing, he is the president of the Huron county board of pension examiners, of which he has been a member for twelve years. He has also been a member of the Chicago Junction school board for a number of years and health officer for four years. Always active in public affairs, he believes money invested in public improvements is for the general good and does much for the betterment and uplift of the people. Citizenship is to him no mere idle term. He feels that every true American citizen should keep well informed on the political questions and issues of the day and support the principles which he deems most beneficial to the nation at large. He believes also that an intelligent discussion of public issues cannot result but in public benefits and he is ever ready to give a clear and comprehensive exposition of his views and the reasons therefor. The republican party finds in him a stalwart champion because of his firm belief in its platform.

Fraternally he is connected with Wilson Todd Post, No. 359, G. A. R., and in specifically professional lines he is associated with the Huron County Medical Association and also with the Ohio State Medical Association. The Young home is one of the most attractive in the village. Mrs. Young is a refined and cultured lady and both Dr. and Mrs. Young are prominent in the social and intellectual life of the community. Their library is well supplied with current literature and the works of the best authors, while the Doctor's volumes treating of professional subjects, are very numerous, giving him light upon the intricate and involved questions that continually arise in daily practice.

JOSIAH LAWRENCE.

Prominent among the pioneers and substantial citizens of Bronson township and Huron county, we present the name of Josiah Lawrence, whose parents, Timothy and Calista (Todd) Lawrence, came to Huron county in early pioneer times and entered the tract of land which is now the home of the subject of this review. Timothy Lawrence was born in Stanford, Connecticut, in 1800, and in 1832 made a permanent location in Huron county. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and, coming here as he did when the work of development, improvement and building was at its height, he found ample opportunity to put



MR. AND MRS. TIMOTHY LAWRENCE

into practice his knowledge of the builder's art. This proved of great advantage to him, as he was thus able to earn a good living ere he could realize a profit from his farming operations. For several years he also did auctioneering, being engaged in the sale of farm property. In early times he was a whig, later an abolitionist and eventually gave his support to the republican platform. He was a man of much influence in his community, ever ready to assist in any movement or measure calculated to benefit his locality or prove of help to his fellowmen. He was an expert with the sword and in 1830 commanded a company of light artillery at Auburn, New York. His children were: Josiah, of this review; and Delia. Mr. Lawrence departed this life January 30, 1882, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-two years, and thus the community lost one of its most highly respected pioneer men. His wife survived for a number of years, her death occurring in February, 1899, when she, too, had reached a very advanced age, being eighty-six years old.

Josiah Lawrence received his education through the medium of the common schools and was reared to the duties of the home farm, assisting his father from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn. He has always lived on the farm which is still his home, it being the place of his birth. The tract consists of one hundred and thirty acres, located in Bronson township. It is improved with substantial buildings and everything about the place is kept in good repair. The only interruption to his farm work was at the time of the Civil war, when Mr. Lawrence served one hundred and thirty days as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under command of Colonel Blake of Medina county and Captain Martin. The company was engaged during this time principally in guard duty. After returning from the war Mr. Lawrence resumed his farm labors and as time passed and his financial resources permitted he increased his holdings until he now owns altogether three hundred and ten acres of as good land as can be found in Huron county. He has always been a noted wood chopper and yet chops several cords of wood each winter.

In October, 1867, Mr. Lawrence was united in marriage to Miss Alice Newman, and the children born to them were: Even, who was born in 1868 and married Charlotte Hinely; and Mary, who was born in December, 1869, and is now engaged in teaching in the Benedict school of Norwalk. The mother of these children died in June, 1870, and in March, 1871, Mr. Lawrence was again married, his second union being with Miss Maggie Baird, by whom he had one child, Levinia, now the wife of Daniel Stone. Her mother passed away in June, 1878, and in December, 1879, Mr. Lawrence married Miss Nancy Rowland, who died on the 12th of May, 1909.

Mr. Lawrence has always given his political support to the republican party and for the past twelve years has served as township trustee. He is also a member of the board of health and was real-estate assessor in the year 1900. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church and he belongs to the Grand Army post. Fond of travel, he has visited twenty different states of the Union and contemplates a visit to California in the winter of 1910-11. Having spent his entire life in Huron county, in the years which have passed, Mr. Lawrence has seen wonderful changes as the county has taken on the evidences of an ad-

vanced civilization, and he has not only been a witness of this transformation but has largely aided in the labors which have transformed the wild tract into a splendid agricultural district, while thriving and enterprising cities and villages have grown from mere hamlets. Now at the age of seventy-five years he is surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life and can look back over his long and honorable business career without regret. He has ever lived at peace with his fellowmen and all who know him esteem him for his genuine personal worth.

SEBASTIAN PURCELL.

That the farms of Ohio are valuable investments, furnishing a substantial means of subsistence to those who have thereon settled, has been proven again and again in the fact that Ohio's native sons remain within her borders. To this class belongs Sebastian Purcell, who was born December 17, 1847, on the farm where he has spent his life and which is his present place of residence.

His parents, John and Margaret Purcell, were both born in Germany and on coming to America in 1846, settled in Huron county, Ohio, having purchased the farm, then containing one hundred and seventeen acres, which has since been in possession of the family. It is situated in Peru township, and to the original purchase has been added some twenty-three acres. In the family of John and Margaret Purcell, there were four children: John, now deceased; Kathryn, who married Peter Wallrath and resides at Logansport, Indiana; Anna, who married Mat Grimmer and resides in Peru township; and Sebastian, the subject of this review. The father of this family passed away in 1861, when only forty-two years of age, while the mother, long surviving, died in 1881, when seventy-three years old. John Purcell was greatly interested in the work of general improvement in his own county and in addition to his farming operations, built a number of bridges and for some time held the position of road supervisor of Peru township, giving his time and service in the building of good roads in this locality.

Sebastian Purcell was reared under the parental roof, assisting his father in the fields during the summer seasons, each fall looking forward to an abundant harvest as the reward of the summer's toil. In the winter months, he sought an education in the district and Catholic schools and in this way spent the day of his youth. In early manhood took upon himself the responsibilities of the agriculturist, following this occupation as a life work. Carefully saving his earnings each year, at length he was enabled to make the old homestead his own, having purchased the farm from his father and, taking great interest in the place, from time to time he has added needed improvements and in the fall of 1909, he expects to erect a modern residence on his property.

On the 17th of February, 1872, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Purcell and Miss Margaret Brown, who was born in Sherman township in 1850, her parents being Fred and Margaret (Pirring) Brown. Unto this union have been born seven children, namely: Albert and Edward, who are yet at home with their parents; Tracy, who married Martin Habenmeier and is living at Norwalk; Theodore, of Chicago Junction, Ohio, who married Anna Bishop and has one

child, Anna; Olive, living at home; Tillie, of Norwalk, Ohio, who married Mat Zurcher and had two children, Edward and Robert, who died when five months old, August 8, 1909, and Alfonse, who is living at home.

Mr. Purcell has followed general agricultural pursuits all his life and is now ably assisted in this field of activity by his sons, Albert, Edward and Alfonse. In religious faith, he is a Catholic and he gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, firmly believing in the principles of its platform as conducive to the best forms of government. His son Alfonse is a member of the Knights of Columbus of Norwalk, but Mr. Purcell devotes his time and energies exclusively to his business, and success has been the reward of his labors.

DWIGHT M. BARRE.

Industry, energy and thrift have characterized the labors of Dwight M. Barre, who is today the owner of eighty acres of well improved and valuable land situated in Ripley township, Huron county, in which township he was born on the 20th of July, 1848. His parents were John and Amy (Stout) Barre, natives of Pennsylvania and New York respectively, the former born in 1805, while the latter's birth occurred in 1809. John Barre was the son of John Barre, Sr., whose family consisted of the following children: Dwight, David, Herman, Jonathan, Wellington, Henry, Ora, Lyman, James, Corvis, Cornelia, Jane, Marietta, Josephine and Jessie. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Jonathan and Lydia (Mitchell) Stout, whose family of six children included: Amy, Jonathan, David, Eliza, Emily and Hannah.

Dwight M. Barre was reared on the old home farm, his youthful days being passed in a manner similar to that of most farm boys who assisted in the work of the fields and at the same time had the opportunity of acquiring a fair English education in the district schools. After laying aside his text-books, he continued to devote his attention to agricultural interests and has made this occupation his life work. His well kept farm of eighty acres is one of the valuable farming properties of the township and in its neat and attractive appearance indicates the thrift and industry of its owner. Close application, systematic methods and intelligently directed energy have been the salient characteristics in the success which he now enjoys and he occupies a foremost place among the progressive and influential agriculturists of the community. He is also known in the financial circles of Greenwich as a stockholder in the First National Bank of that city.

Mr. Barre laid the foundations for a happy home life in his marriage on the 22d of December, 1876, to Miss Ella Wolcott, a native of Massachusetts, her birth occurring in that state in 1855. Mrs. Barre is a daughter of Renseller and Augusta (Miller) Wolcott, both natives of the old Bay state, the former's birth occurring in 1830 while the latter was born in 1837. She was a sister of George and Esther Wolcott and her grandparents on the paternal side were Thomas and Sally (Williams) Wolcott. Her mother was the daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Olds) Miller, in whose family were the following: Augusta, Alfred, George, Frank, Emma, Susan and Hattie. On the paternal side, Mrs. Barre comes from

a family which was founded in America in 1620, representatives of the name having been active in the affairs of this country in early colonial days. Several members of the Wolcott family were governors of Connecticut, one was secretary of the treasury under Washington's administration while still another was numbered among the signers of the Declaration of Independence. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Barre have been born two children, Walter and DeWitt.

The family are members of the Congregational church, in which Mr. Barre is serving as treasurer, and he and his wife occupy a high place socially in the community in which they reside. Fraternally, Mr. Barre is a Mason, while in politics he gives stalwart support to the republican party, being in hearty sympathy with its principles and purposes. Having passed his entire life in this township, his life record is well known to his fellow citizens, whose respect, confidence and good will he enjoys in no limited degree.

FRANK O. BRIGGS.

A representative of the worthier agricultural class of Huron county, Frank O. Briggs cultivates a fine farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres in Greenwich township. He was born December 7, 1857, on this property, though his has not been a continuous residence there and he is a son of George W. and Joanna (Kniffin) Briggs and grandson of David Briggs. The grandfather was one of the very early pioneers of the county, a justice of the peace for many years, and a great hunter and trapper, following this business all over northern Ohio and Michigan. He dealt largely with the Indians and secured their friendship by his kind and honorable dealing. George W. Briggs was the first white child born in Greenwich township. He accompanied his father on his long hunting trips and experienced the fidelity and medical skill of the Indians. On one of the trips, the boy took a severe case of the measles and the father, not knowing what to do, finally took him to an Indian camp where he left him. When he returned the boy had completely recovered. David Briggs finally settled down in Huron county, where he died in 1864. George W. married, as stated, and lived for a time in Huron, but the inherited spirit of adventure caused him to listen to the siren of the gold fields in the great west, and in 1864 he crossed the plains to Idaho City, the many thrilling experiences being to him like the smoke of battle to the war horse. Mr. Briggs remained in the west until 1876, his wife and children staying in Huron county. The whole family then spent three years in Idaho, at the end of which time the mother returned. In 1882, Frank and his father also came back, giving up frontier life permanently and settling on a farm in Greenwich township. George W. Briggs died here in 1901, aged eighty-one years, the wife having preceded him the year before at the age of eighty. The daughter, Jennie, is now Mrs. T. A. Jenney, residing in California.

Frank O. Briggs, of this review, was reared in Greenwich township and received a good district school education before going west. Just before returning, he married Miss Eliza Stierman, of Idaho City, June 22, 1882, a daughter of William and Anna (Otten) Stierman. Mr. Stierman was one of the California

"49ers," and there his children were born. Two children form Mr. Briggs' family: William and Gladys, both still at home.

The later life of Mr. Briggs is briefly told. He engaged in farming for a few years, after his return from the west, then handled agricultural implements at Greenwich village in company with W. J. Richards, under the firm name of Richards & Briggs. Again the call of the west was heeded, and in 1886, the family went back to Idaho, engaging in the dairy business at Rocky Bar. After five years there, they returned to their Greenwich farm, where they have since held continuous residence. However, the spirit of the grandsire is strong, and in 1906 Mr. Briggs returned to Idaho, taking his family, where they spent some eighteen months in hunting and tramping, his son showing his prowess by killing three of the five bears secured, together with numerous other large game.

Frank O. Briggs is alert and active in the life of his home community, serving the public at times in the different offices of township trustee, assessor and member of the school board. As the present trustee of the township, he is pushing the good roads idea and with much success. He is an active standpatter in republican politics and as a delegate in the conventions of his party is forceful and judicious in outlining party policies.

CALVIN A. HEYMAN.

Calvin A. Heyman, a prosperous young farmer of Sherman township, and the owner of one hundred and ninety-two acres of fine land, in two different farms, was born at Weavers Corners, this township, January 11, 1871, and is a son of Jacob and Clara (Longscheid) Heyman. Both parents were born in Germany, but came to this country at an early age with their respective parents. Jacob Heyman, who is still living on two hundred and fifty acres of land at Weavers Corners, was born December 26, 1836, and was sixteen years of age when his parents William C. and Margaret (Upperman) Heyman came to this country. The latter settled at Hunts Corners, where they lived for about one year, moving then to Sherman township, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. This was only partly cleared and the house on it was an old frame building. Here they lived until 1862, when they bought land in this locality of Mr. Weaver, which was their home until death called them, the grandfather at the age of eighty-six, the grandmother at seventy-six. They had ten children: William, deceased; John, killed by a barn door falling on him during a storm; Charles, who lives in Huron, Ohio; Jacob, the father of the subject of this sketch; Jeanette, who married Philip Stutz, of Three Rivers, Michigan; Philip, deceased; George, of Sherman township; Henry, of Paulding county, Ohio; Fred, of the same place; and Elizabeth, the wife of William Horn, of Topeka, Kansas.

Jacob Heyman, the father of Calvin A., has lived in this county since he was sixteen years old. He had attended school in Germany, but after coming here was in the employ of various farmers by the year. On the 20th of October, 1861, he was married to Miss Catherine Longscheid, who had come to this county with her parents when fourteen years of age. Her family settled in Sherman town-

ship, where the parents both died. They had six children: Elizabeth, deceased; Margaret; William, deceased; Anthony; Clara, the mother of our subject, and one who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Heyman had a family of thirteen children, nine of whom died before they were seven years old. Those living are: Calvin A., of this review; Clara, the wife of George Setchel, and the mother of one son, Russell; Edward, who was killed in a street car accident at the age of thirty-four; and Amelia, who lives at home. Jacob Heyman is a man who has been prominent in local affairs. He has been a farmer all his life and has filled several offices within the gift of the people, having served as township trustee, justice of the peace, real estate assessor, treasurer, road supervisor and school director. He has always voted the democratic ticket and these offices have been bestowed by the voters of that party. He has been a member of the Reformed church at Hunts Corners and has held office in the congregation the greater part of his life, being the only member now living who helped organize and establish the church in 1865. In short, he is a man, who, possessed of strong qualities, has not hesitated to exert them for the good of the community and the fair name of himself.

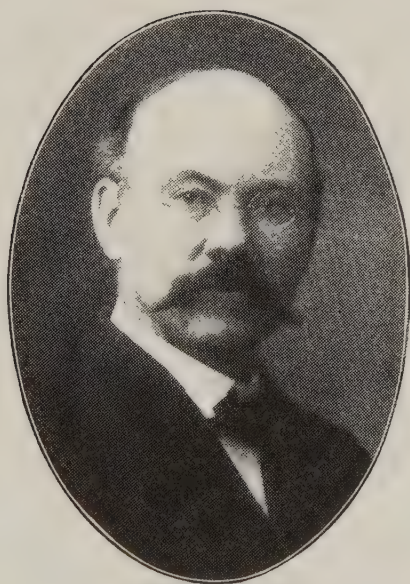
Calvin A. Heyman, his son, received his early education in the district schools, after which he attended the Ohio Normal College at Ada. Upon finishing his schooling, he entered upon a period of teaching of perhaps seven years, but he has followed farming the greater part of his life, having been reared under the guidance of a successful farmer and in a farming community, and when he thought of making a home for himself, it was this vocation that he chose. In 1895 he bought his present place from Jacob Hass and immediately set about improving it and increasing its productiveness. Among the other buildings which he has erected is a fine, large barn.

On the 18th of November, 1897, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Heyman and Miss Flora Heyman, a daughter of John Paul and Jeanette (Scheid) Heyman, who were among the early settlers of Lyme township. She is the sister of L. P. Heyman, of whom mention is made in another part of this volume. One child, a daughter, Ethel, has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Heyman.

Mr. Heyman and his family are members of the Reformed church of Hunts Corners, in which he has been superintendent of the Sunday school for about eleven years. He is a young man of industry and ability, whose efforts have so far been crowned with well deserved success and for whom the future seems to hold much in store.

FRANK E. WEEKS, M. D.

Among the notable citizens of Clarksfield township, who have not only achieved distinction in the particular work which they mapped out for themselves but have entered other fields and have devoted themselves to promoting the interests of the community in which they live, is Dr. Frank E. Weeks, a physician. He was born in a log cabin in Henrietta township, Lorain county,



DR. F. E. WEEKS

Ohio, and is the son of Henry H. and Cora L. (Van Camp) Weeks. He is of remotely Dutch descent, for one of his ancestors, Jacobus Kipp, was born in Holland in 1632, and on the 8th of March, 1654, married Miss Maria de la Montaine, in the old Dutch fort in New Netherlands that is now New York. His wife was born near the Maderia islands, January 26, 1637, while her parents were on their way to the new country. Sarah Kipp, daughter of Benjamin and Dorothy (Davenport) Kipp, the latter a grandson of Jacobus Kipp, was married to James Weeks in Newcastle, Westchester county, New York, in 1766. The son of this union, Benjamin Kipp Weeks, was born March 22, 1773, and married Sarah Thorn, the daughter of Thomas, Jr., and Hannah (Sutton) Thorn. Thomas T. Weeks, a son of Benjamin, came with his family to Ohio in 1837 and settled in Florence township, Erie county, where he engaged in farming. The first piece of land he purchased was heavily covered with timber, and later he bought another tract on which the work of clearing had already been begun and which boasted a double log house. In this the family lived for eight years, while their frame house was building. He had followed the life of a farmer, and his son Henry H. took up the same line of work in Florence township, Erie county. In 1883, Henry H. Weeks removed to Kipton, Lorain county, where he has since resided, living in retirement upon his farm. One son only was born to him and his wife, Dr. Frank E. Weeks.

In the district schools of the county Frank E. Weeks received the fundamentals of a broad education. On leaving these he spent three terms in study at Oberlin University, after which he taught for three winters, working on the farm during the summer months. In 1880 he took up the study of medicine, entering the medical department of the Western Reserve University at Cleveland, from which he was graduated with the class of 1883. Dr. Edwin E. Beeman, who was at that time practicing in Wakeman, was his preceptor. After receiving his physician's license, Dr. Weeks began the practice of his profession in Kipton, Lorain county. In 1885 he removed to Vermilion, Erie county, and the next year came to Clarksfield, where he has remained ever since and enjoys a large and remunerative practice. An able physician, Dr. Weeks is also an exemplary citizen, whose public spirit is an inspiration to many. In politics he is a republican and has ever been active in the affairs of the party, having been for years the Clarksfield member of the republican county committee, and almost invariably the township delegate to the county, district and state conventions. During one term he served the county as coroner, was township clerk for eighteen years and clerk of the school board for twenty years, and is at present a member of the latter body. His literary and historical interests are also extensive, biography and genealogies receiving much of his attention. The Firelands Historical Society appointed him biographer for Huron county, a position he holds to the present. In 1908 he compiled *The Pioneer History of Clarksfield*, a very complete work, comprising both historical and biographical data, and is now engaged on similar work, which he hopes to publish soon. Perhaps, however, the measure of his public spirit can be estimated in no better way than by the fact that it was through his efforts that the Clarksfield Telephone Company was organized and incorporated, a concern which has now one hundred and fifty subscribers with long distance connection.

On the 5th of June, 1883, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Weeks to Miss Cynthia A. Judson, the daughter of Albert W. and Mary Ann (Fish) Judson, of Berlin Heights, Erie county, where for a number of years Mr. Judson was civil engineer and surveyor. He died April 22, 1904, but his wife, who survives, lives in Sandusky, Ohio. Dr. and Mrs. Weeks are the parents of three children: Charles J., who is married and is a resident of Oberlin, Ohio; Lucy M., a teacher in the Clarksfield schools, who entered Oberlin College in the fall of 1909; and Paul T., also a student at Oberlin.

In all that he has undertaken Dr. Weeks has achieved success and a fair fame, and the results of his labors have been far-reaching. As a physician he enjoys an extensive practice and the confidence of those to whose wants he administers. In the councils of the republican party his opinion is ever regarded highly. In Clarksfield the interest he has evinced in public matters, especially in educational affairs, has met with unswerving good will and loyalty. His literary efforts, too, have been successful, for he is a graceful and fluent writer, endowed with the power of expressing what he has to say in an interesting and attractive manner. Before the meetings of the Huron County Medical Society he often reads papers on important subjects, for he stands high in this organization, and his opinions on matters in dispute is eagerly sought. In short he is a man who has improved upon the many opportunities afforded him, has used them for his own advancement and the welfare of his fellows.

C. A. PAUL.

C. A. Paul needs no introduction to the readers of this volume for he is a leading and representative business man the story of whose life is that of orderly progression under the steady hand of one who is a consistent master of himself and who possesses a well balanced organism. Capable of mature judgment of his own capacities and of the people and circumstances that make up his life's contacts and experiences he is eminently a man of business sense and easily avoids the mistakes and disasters that come to those who are liable to erratic movements resulting in unwarranted risk and failure. He has been identified with manufacturing interests, but for a long period his investments have been represented by banking and agricultural interests and he is now vice-president of the Citizens Banking Company of Norwalk.

A native of Erie county, Ohio, C. A. Paul was born December 12, 1860, and represents a pioneer family of that county. His grandfather, Loren Paul, settled in Erie county at a very early day, having driven westward to Ohio from the state of New York with a yoke of oxen. In the midst of the wild forest he established his home, securing a large tract of land which he converted into rich and productive fields as the years passed by. His son, James L. Paul, was also a native of Erie county and having arrived at years of maturity he married Miss Eliza A. Delamater, a native of New York. He also devoted his entire life to general agricultural pursuits, being still identified with farming interests. His wife passed away on the 11th of April, 1908.

C. A. Paul acquired his early education in the district schools and afterward attended the Normal high school and also the Ohio State University. He was a youth of thirteen years when in 1874 his father removed with the family from Erie to Huron county and established his home upon a farm in Bronson township, where he is still living. He is numbered among the extensive and successful farmers and stock-raisers, making a specialty of the raising of fine cattle. His son, C. A. Paul, is an only child. His youthful days were passed under the parental roof but, not desiring to follow agricultural pursuits as a life work he turned his attention to manufacturing interests, with which he was connected for two years after leaving school. He then took up the banking business in which he has since continued and is now vice-president of the Citizens Banking Company. He also owns two farms in Huron county and from this property derives a substantial annual income.

In 1893 Mr. Paul was united in marriage to Miss Clara Cannon, a native of Cleveland and a daughter of Captain Thomas Wilson, an extensive ship owner. Mr. Paul is identified with the Congregational church. He is preeminently a man of affairs with large and varied interests and wields a wide influence. As a business man and financier he ranks prominent among the men of force in the community because of his ready recognition and utilization of opportunities. He has made no backward steps in his life, his course being characterized by continuous progress toward the goal of prosperity. His business affairs, although extensive, have not hurt his active participation in movements relative to the public good and throughout the community he is known as a public-spirited citizen whose interest in the general welfare has been manifest in many tangible ways.

JOSEPH H. POST.

Joseph H. Post, whose name is known throughout Ohio and other states in the Union in connection with thoroughbred Delaine merino sheep, now owns a farm of eighty-three acres in New London township, in the operation of which he is meeting with most gratifying success. He is numbered among the native sons of Huron county, his birth having occurred in Hartland township on the 18th of January, 1859.

Reared to agricultural pursuits, he attended the public schools of his native township in the acquirement of his education, and during the periods of vacation he assisted in the work of the home farm. He continued to devote his time to his text-books until eighteen years of age, when his father's feeble health made it necessary for him to take charge of his business affairs. The father passed away when Mr. Post was twenty-one years of age, and he continued to reside upon the homestead, directing his efforts to its management, until 1903, when the property was divided. He then purchased eighty-three acres of fine farm land in New London township, upon which he has since made his home. Here he has engaged in general agricultural pursuits, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation, while for many years he was identified with sheep-raising interests, making a specialty of thoroughbred Delaine merino sheep. He was eminently suc-

cessful in this branch of his business, gaining the reputation of having one of the best breeding flocks of sheep in Ohio. On account of ill health, however, he was obliged to give up his stock interests, since which time he has confined himself to general farming. The Post sheep, however, are still well known and are a very popular breed throughout Ohio and adjoining states, while their reputation has even extended as far west as the state of Washington, where they are handled by the Baldwin Sheep & Ranch Company. Mr. Post has enjoyed a substantial income from the fact that both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the breeding of sheep—have proved profitable, while his indefatigable industry, his intelligently directed labors, his close application and his good business ability have been salient characteristics in his success.

It was in 1885 that Mr. Post was united in marriage to Miss Minnie E. Miller, a native of Hartland township, born on the 1st of November, 1868, and a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Miller, residents of Hartland township. Mr. Post gives loyal support to the republican party and is now serving as township trustee, while he has also been township appraiser, at all times performing the duties of these offices in a prompt, efficient and highly satisfactory manner. Having spent his entire life in Huron county, he has gained an extensive circle of friends within its borders, and the fact that he is most liked and respected where best known is an indication that the principles which actuate him in his relations with his fellowmen are in harmony with those which govern honorable and upright manhood.

JOSEPH H. COUTANT.

The Coutant family of Greenwich township is known as one of the early pioneers of the county. Several of its members still reside here at advanced age, and all are respected for their integrity and uprightness. Four of the original family of eleven children born to Jasper and Phobe (Burdsell) Coutant are still living: Gideon, Joseph H. and Benjamin, of Greenwich township, respectively aged ninety, eighty-eight and eighty-five years and Burdsell, aged eighty, residing in Wood county, Ohio. The parents of these children lived in Monroe county, Pennsylvania, the father dying there at a comparatively early age. The grandfather Burdsell and family moved to Ohio in 1833, together with other relatives. After the death of Mr. Coutant, the widow, in 1856, followed her sons and relatives and passed the remainder of her life in the Buckeye state, dying in 1896, at the extreme old age of one hundred years and one hundred days.

Joseph H. Coutant, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in what is now Monroe county, Pennsylvania, September 19, 1820. Ten years after the emigration of the Burdsells, Gideon and Joseph H. Coutant decided to come to what was then referred to as the "Great West." They made the journey in the usual manner of the times—overland by horses and wagon. Upon arriving they settled in the forest and carved out of nature's bounty a log-cabin home. Four years passed before Joseph was ready to take upon himself the responsibilities of married life, but on October 18, 1847, he brought to his cabin home a wife, formerly Miss Mary Jane Hoyt. She was a member of a pioneer family also, who had

emigrated to Ohio from New York, being originally from Connecticut. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Coutant: Ella Gertrude, Edward H. and Charles, the last dying in infancy. Ella and Edward are unmarried and reside with their father on the old home farm, the mother having died in November, 1883.

After marriage, Joseph H. Coutant settled on his present farm and has continued his residence thereon to the present time. As prosperity came he invested in land and has for many years been known as one of the largest real-estate holders in the county; his present holdings comprising three hundred acres of highly improved land.

Mr. Coutant has been a model citizen, taking up such duties as came to him and performing them in an intelligent and efficient manner. He served many years on the school board of his township, as township trustee, and in other public matters his voice has always been raised in support of that which would elevate the moral tone of the community. A whig in his early manhood, voting first for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," he took part in the evolution of affairs which produced the republican party. His vote is now cast in that party's favor and he is proud to claim a charter membership therein. His religious life has been passed in the Society of Friends, having had a birthright membership. He has been active in the work of the church and still loves "the precincts of the sanctuary." Although of advanced age, Mr. Coutant is vigorous and active and is passing his closing years in the cheerful habits of industry formed in his youth, surrounded by friends who esteem him for his unquestionable worth.

ANDREW MISSLER.

Andrew Missler, carrying on agricultural pursuits in Sherman township, is one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of this section of the county, who has, moreover, been an extensive landowner in the past, but has given away considerable property to his sons. He still owns a farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres upon which he resides and which he continues to operate. A native of Germany, he was born June 27, 1848, a son of Andrew and Frances Missler. The parents, who were reared and married in the fatherland, brought their family to the United States in 1854, settling first in Adams county, Ohio, where they remained for one year. A removal was then made to Huron county, and here their remaining days were passed, the father passing away March 19, 1871, while the mother's demise occurred six weeks later. In their family were the following children: Anna, deceased; Joseph; Margaret, Elizabeth and Caroline, who have all passed away; Catherine; Anthony, a soldier of the Civil war who is now deceased; Peter, who is also dead; and Andrew, of this review.

In the district schools of Huron county Andrew Missler acquired his education, and remained a student up to his fifteenth year, when, setting aside his textbooks, he shouldered his ax and went into the woods to assist in clearing the land. At that time much of the district was covered with native timber and the trees had to be removed ere the work of improvement could be begun. From an early age he assisted in the work of developing a new farm, and he has since

continued to make agriculture his life work. Upon attaining manhood he embarked in business on his own account and purchased ninety acres from his father, for which he paid four thousand dollars. He later acquired fifty-three and a half acres from Worthington Imps, which cost thirty-five hundred dollars, another tract of fifty-five and a half acres from Anthony Gerhardstein, for which he paid twenty-five hundred dollars, and he paid thirty-five hundred dollars for eighty-one acres purchased from Frank Ruffing. The farm upon which he now resides includes one hundred and twenty-three acres bought from Joseph Ruffing for nine thousand dollars. He became known as one of the extensive land owners of Sherman township, but he has since given three different farms to his sons and contemplates giving another one next year. This continuous and steady accumulation of property is but the visible evidence of the prosperity that came to him as the years went by, for he is a practical, progressive and successful farmer, who possesses also the ability of keen judgment and good business management.

On the 13th of September, 1870, Mr. Missler was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Meyers, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann Meyers, farming people of Seneca county, Ohio. She is one of a family of six children, the other members of the family being Benjamin, Mary, John, Jacob and Catherine. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Missler has been blessed with nine children, as follows: J. Andrew; Catherine; Mary; Joseph; John; Jacob, deceased; Fred; Otto; and Clara, who died December 14, 1907.

The family attend the Catholic church and Mr. Missler gives his support to the democracy where national issues are concerned. However he reserves the right to vote independently in local matters, casting his ballot for the men and measures which in his judgment will best conserve the public good. He has served as road supervisor and is always interested in all matters pertaining to the upbuilding and growth of the community. He has attained success in his chosen field of labor, but his prosperity has come to him as the direct result of industry, energy, perseverance and well directed efforts. He stands high in the honor and esteem of his fellowmen and is recognized as one of the valuable and representative citizens of Sherman township.

GEORGE W. BAKER.

George W. Baker, one of the younger farmers of Greenfield township, who with his brother August manages the one hundred and sixty-five acres of land owned by their mother, was born in Peru township, Huron county, August 27, 1874. His parents, George P. and Elizabeth (Miller) Baker, were both of German birth, but spent the greater part of their lives in this country. The father was twenty-eight when he started life in the United States. He came direct to Ohio and settled in Sandusky, where he found employment during the winter months in the boiler shops, and during the summer on the lakes. About 1870 he came to Huron county, locating in Peru township, where he first worked for Philip Erf for a number of years, and then bought one hundred acres of land, on which he lived and farmed until 1902, when he sold it and removed to Greenfield township. The Peru township farm was largely covered with tim-



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE P. BAKER

ber when he first settled there, an entirely different piece of property from that which his successor found, for Mr. Baker had not only brought the fields to a high state of cultivation, but had also erected some fine buildings. In 1902 he bought from Mrs. Shields the farm that is known as the old Simmons place. On it he made his home until his death, and on it his widow and sons still live. It, also, has profited by the Bakers' residence, for the buildings have been remodeled, and a more scientific and up-to-date system of agriculture has been carried on that has increased its productiveness and enabled it to produce a better quality of crops. Mr. Baker was released from the cares of this world September 19, 1907, but his wife still survives at the age of fifty-six. She was eighteen when she came to this country with her brother, William Miller, and in the years of her married life became the mother of six children: George, of this review is the eldest. August was born January 17, 1876. Lena died at one year of age. John died at the age of six months. Albert married Lena Lovell, an adopted daughter of Mrs. Martha Lovell of this township, and they have three children: Jeannette, Elizabeth and Raymond, and live in Greenfield township. Bertha, the youngest of the family, married Peter Zieher and lives at Sandusky, Ohio. They have one son, Bernhart George.

George W. Baker has always lived in this county, receiving his training to meet the problems of life at home and in the district schools. For a few terms he was a pupil in the German school of Peru township, so that his education is better than that which falls to the lot of many boys reared on a farm and compelled to get their lesson at odd moments when work did not claim their time and in the few months during which the school held session. He has been successful in the farming he has conducted on his land, but has not specialized in any particular branch.

On the 26th of October, 1901, Mr. Baker was united in marriage to Miss Merrill Perry, a daughter of Fred and Mary (Gates) Perry, of Penn township, who were among the early settlers of that locality, and have many stories to tell of the changes that have taken place since they first took up their residence there. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have an adopted daughter, Loretia Meyers, a little girl of six years of age. August Baker, who assists his brother in the conduct of the farm, was married in 1904 to Miss Anna Christ, of Erie county. They have a son George, a stalwart little child in whom many hopes are placed. The Baker family are members of the Lutheran church of Pontiac, which George P. Baker helped to build and in which he always held office. The sons are still active in its affairs and in the general tenor of their lives give evidence of its teachings.

JOHN DRURY.

John Drury, a farmer of Lyme township, Huron county, owning seventy-five acres of land near Bellevue, upon which he lives, was born on this farm, March 7, 1847. The Drury family originally came from England in 1632, settling in one of the New England states. Our subject's great-grandfather bore the name

of Jonathan Drury, while his grandfather was John Drury, who was born in Massachusetts and became the father of ten children, two sons and eight daughters. Our subject's father, Jonathan Maynard Drury, was born in Worthington, Massachusetts, February 24, 1809. In the course of time he married Miss Abigail Maynard Knowlton, a daughter of Benjamin Knowlton, of New Fane, Vermont, where Miss Abigail was born June 29, 1812. In 1837, the year subsequent to his marriage, Jonathan Drury came to Huron county, Ohio, on a prospecting tour. The following season he moved his family to Lyme township, this county, settling upon a small rented farm. For several years he worked for the different farmers until, in 1842, he was able to buy a tract of sixty-four acres of land, to which he added until he had a tract of one hundred and ten acres, upon a part of which his son lives at the present day. A log cabin was his first habitation and served him until 1857, when he put up a fine brick residence, only one of the many extensive improvements he made on the place. Jonathan Drury was a life-long member of the Lyme Congregational church, of which he was a deacon for over fifty years, and when death called him, August 13, 1897, the community felt they had lost an esteemed member. By his first marriage there were three children born: Ellen M., who died at the age of seventeen; Caroline T., who was but six at the time of her death; and John, the subject of this sketch. After the death of his first wife which occurred May 8, 1847, Mr. Drury married Mrs. Clarissa Barnard Wrisley, by whom he had one son Miron Maynard, who was born on the home farm, June 19, 1853. He married Miss Ida Osborn and is a prominent business man of Chicago, Illinois, making his home in Evanston. Four children have been born to him: Walter M., Louise, Burton E. and Allen B. By her former marriage Mrs. Clarissa Drury had two sons: George A., now deceased, and Allen B., both prominent soap manufacturers of Chicago, where they started in business in 1861.

John Drury has lived all the years of his life on the old home farm, which he inherited from his father. His education was acquired at the public and high schools of Bellevue. Upon completing his own schooling he taught for two winters in York township, Sandusky county, while during the summer seasons he followed the life of a farmer, as he had from the days of his childhood. In the quiet pursuit of his vocation his days have been passed. He fell heir to his father's property, as he had followed in his footsteps and not only in the matter of business but also as regards functions bestowed by the good will of his fellows, for upon his father's death he was made deacon of the church. Of its Sunday school he has been superintendent for fifteen years and for a period of over thirty years has been clerk of the congregation.

Mr. Drury was twice married, the first time to Miss Ida Mary Cowle, a daughter of John and Anna (Ford) Cowle, of Bellevue, whom he married February 8, 1871. There was one daughter, Edith Ellen, born to this union, but she died in infancy, being born May 27, 1873, and dying the 16th of August following. Mrs. Drury, who was born September 12, 1846, died February 4, 1887, and on the 8th of May, 1889, Mr. Drury married Mrs. Josephine (Wright) Nims, a daughter of John and Betsy (Ford) Wright. John Wright was the founder of the Wright Banking Company, of Bellevue, and its president until his death, and at one time he owned three thousand acres of land in this section of the state. Mrs.

Josephine (Wright) Drury was born April 16, 1848, in Groton township, Erie county, Ohio, and by her former marriage had one child, Walter Worthington Nims, who lives at Strongs Ridge, Lyme township. He married Miss Mamie L. Newton and has one child, born January 1, 1909.

His long residence and connection with affairs in this county has made Mr. Drury well known in this locality. Looking back over his past life, which has been filled with earnest endeavor, no greater praise can be given than by saying he is a worthy son of an esteemed father.

ROBERT ARTHUR.

Robert Arthur, who has the distinction of being the largest landowner of Huron county, Ohio, resides upon a farm of thirteen hundred acres in Greenfield township, to the cultivation of which he is directing his entire energies. He was born in this township on the 4th of March, 1829, in an old log house situated about three-quarters of a mile from his present home, and is a son of John and Martha (Easter) Arthur. The father was born near Londonderry, Ireland, in 1797, and in 1822 he brought his wife and one child to the United States, purchasing a small farm in Greenfield township, Huron county. Upon the land stood a log house in which they began their housekeeping, while Mr. Arthur at once commenced clearing the land for the purpose of cultivation. Soon he had improved the entire tract and was so prosperous in his undertaking that as the years went by he was able to add to his original holdings and at the time of his death he was the owner of an excellent farm of three hundred acres. He was a member of the Congregational church of Steuben and assisted in building that church, in which he was an office-holder up to the time of his death. He was a man of fine principles who was respected and esteemed throughout the community in which he resided. He passed away in 1890, while his wife, who was also born in Ireland, was eighty-four years of age at the time of her death. In their family were six children, namely: Margaret, who was born in Ireland and is the deceased wife of Alexander Lewis, who has also passed away; Anna J., who married James McPherson and resides at Steuben, Ohio, being the oldest resident of that town, a sketch of whom is found elsewhere in this volume; Mary, who married Thomas Irving, both of whom are now deceased; William, who passed away at the age of seventy years; Robert, of this review; and Kathryn, also deceased. All were born in this township with the exception of the eldest, whose birth occurred before the parents left Ireland.

Amid the wholesome scenes and environments of agricultural life Robert Arthur was reared to manhood, and during the intervening years he attended the district schools in the acquirement of a good education that fitted him for the responsible and practical duties of life. Under the direction of his father he also learned valuable lessons concerning the best methods of cultivating the fields, and in the broader school of experience received thorough and comprehensive training. He has devoted his entire life to general farming, in which he has been eminently successful, and by indefatigable energy, untiring diligence and intelli-

gently applied labor he has been able to add, from time to time, to his property holdings until today he is the most extensive landowner in Huron county, having in his possession about thirteen hundred acres of fine farming land.

On the 27th of February, 1867, Mr. Arthur was united in marriage to Miss Julia Cook, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wyet Cook, residents of Peru township. In that township she was born in 1843 and on the 20th of April, 1901, was called to her final rest, her death being the cause of deep regret to a large number of warm friends. Beside her husband she left to mourn her loss five children, namely: Mattie, who still resides at home; Clarence, who married Inez Hill, by whom he has two children, Margaret and Francis, and who resides upon and operates the home farm; J. V., who married Irene Otes and with his wife and three children, Aubrey, John M. and Annetta, resides near Steuben, Ohio; Laura, the wife of James Trimmer of Fairfield township, by whom she has six children, Helen, Arthur, Marian, Julia, Jeanette and Charles, the family residence being at North Fairfield, Ohio; and Fred, residing at Steuben, who married Alice Barre and has two children, Robert and Malcolm.

Mr. Arthur's religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Congregational church of Steuben, in which he has been a trustee for a great number of years. He gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and has served in several township offices on that ticket, being trustee of the township for four terms and a school director for a long period. He has already passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, having reached the eightieth milestone on life's journey, while his entire career has been passed within the borders of Huron county, where his fellow citizens know him as a straightforward and reliable man and an enterprising farmer, who well deserves the esteem and high regard that is uniformly accorded him.

WILLIAM GAMBLE.

William Gamble, who is now living retired in a comfortable home in Steuben, Huron county, was for many years closely identified with the agricultural interests of Greenfield township, where he owned farming property. Mr. Gamble was born in Lincolnshire, England, October 15, 1842, and was but six months old when brought by his parents, Thomas and Mary (Rick) Gamble, to the United States. The father was born December 21, 1806, and at an early day came to the new world, establishing his home in New York, where he remained about fifteen months. He then continued his journey westward, and with his family settled in Monroeville, Huron county, where for a time he was in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company. Believing, however, that farm life would prove more congenial, he began in a small way by purchasing ten acres of land in Fairfield township. He then took up his abode on this place and made it his home until his wife died, when he disposed of his farming interests and removed to Illinois, making his home with a daughter during the succeeding eight years. He once more returned to Huron county and entered the employ of Barnett Roe in a mill. Later he in partnership with his son purchased sixty-six acres of land in

Greenfield township and for thirty-one years was actively identified with agricultural pursuits, his death occurring April 8, 1895, when he had reached the extreme old age of eighty-eight years, and his remains lie buried in the cemetery at Steuben. As above stated, his wife bore the maiden name of Mary Rick, and they became the parents of two sons and a daughter: William, of this review; Joseph, who left home about forty-five years ago, since which time he has not been heard from; and Mary Ann, who makes her home in Minnesota. The wife and mother lived but a few years after coming to the United States, her death occurring in 1849, her remains being interred at Olena, in Bronson township, Huron county.

William Gamble accompanied his parents on their various removals after coming to this country but he was mainly reared in Huron county, where he also acquired his education, which, however, was somewhat limited, owing to the primitive condition of the newly settled district. After reaching mature years he and his father purchased sixty-six acres of land in Greenfield township, which they cultivated for thirty-one years. Eventually Mr. Gamble added a tract of sixty-six acres to the original purchase and made all the improvements upon the place. He erected a house and barn but the latter was destroyed by fire but was soon replaced by another. Throughout a long period he was closely identified with farming interests but in 1903 he disposed of his farm property to Mrs. Samuel Wagner and purchased a nice home in Steuben, where he has since made his home. He has here four and a half acres of ground, which is kept in good condition and today he is numbered among the worthy retired citizens of this village.

Mr. Gamble was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Bennett, a daughter of Allen and Harriett (Youngs) Bennett, the ceremony being performed on the 9th of February, 1864. Mrs. Gamble was born in New Haven township, Huron county, her paternal grandfather, James Youngs, having been a pioneer settler of that district. Her father was born in the Empire state in 1823 and departed this life in 1859, when but thirty-six years of age. The mother was born in Auburn township, Richland county, Ohio, in 1827, and was married in Greenfield township to Mr. Youngs. Her death occurred in 1857, when she was but thirty years old. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters, namely: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Gamble; James, a resident of Illinois; Charles, of Indiana; and Mary, who died at the age of nine years. Mrs. Gamble was but nine years of age at the time of her parents' death, and she was then taken into the home of her grandfather, James Youngs, by whom she was carefully reared and educated. She made her home with her grandfather until the time of her marriage. She has become the mother of five children, as follows: Lillian, the wife of Charles Earl, of Fairfield township, by whom she has one child, Fannie; Helen, who is the wife of Fred Sparks, of Peru township, and the mother of three children, Maud, Walter and Stamford; William Thomas, who wedded Ella Brant, of Chicago, Ohio, by whom he has had three children, Lawrence, Dale and Wilma, but the latter is now deceased; Jay, who wedded Ethel Brant, their home being in Norwalk, Ohio; and Mary, who died at the age of eleven months.

Mr. Gamble is independent in his political views and affiliations and for the past ten years has served as township trustee. He has also held other public offices, having been elected on both the republican and democratic tickets. He has now

passed the sixty-seventh milestone on life's journey and the greater part of this period has been passed in Huron county, so that few men have more intimate knowledge of its history or of events which have left their impress upon its annals. He has spent a busy, active and useful life and he and his estimable wife are now enjoying in retirement the accumulations of profitable, successful and honorable careers.

CLARENCE E. STOTTS.

One of the native sons of Ripley township, successful in his agricultural pursuits and prominent in local business circles is Clarence E. Stotts, who lives upon the old homestead and enjoys the home which for so many years was the residence of his father. He was born November 3, 1863, and is a son of Abram and Mariette (Boughton) Stotts. The father, born December 5, 1822, in Belmont county, Ohio, was the son of John and Eva (Winter) Stotts, the latter a native of Virginia, and was the eldest of nine children: Abram, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Martin K., Catherine, George, Daniel and Elizabeth. He was the first born and he was the last to die. The eighty-six years of his life, his death occurring July 21, 1909, were crowded with activities of the highest order and of profit to others. A man whose advantages in his youth had been limited, the success of his life in farming and in the business world was due entirely to his own efforts. The Huron County Insurance Company was organized in his house, that in which Clarence E. Stotts lives today, and he was elected its first president. He was also a director of the First National Bank at Greenwich for a period of two years. The people of Ripley township frequently called upon him to fill the various offices which were at their disposal and twice, in 1875 and in 1878, he was elected on the republican ticket to fill the post of commissioner for Huron county. In the Baptist church at North Fairfield he was also prominent, and he administered the duties of trustee and deacon with wisdom and decorum. In short he was a man who made a place for himself in the fore ranks despite the fact that he was handicapped in the struggle for life by limited early training. His wife, who before her marriage was Miss Mariette Boughton, was born in Allegany county, New York, June 12, 1831, and was the daughter of John and Susan (Benedict) Boughton, who came to Ohio in 1835 and took up the work of the early pioneers. She was one of ten children, the others being Solon, Orlando, Cordier, Lucius, Elon, Theodore, Oscar, Sanford and Silicia. Mr. and Mrs. Abram Stotts were the parents of four children. Flora A. married John W. Hopkins, and they have one son, Fred A. Eunice Adell married T. A. Hilton, and they have two children, Flora E. and Alfred W. Clarence E., the third of the family, is the subject of this sketch. Elmer A. married Miss Mildred Kaylor and they have one daughter, Blanche. Mrs. Stotts preceded her husband to the grave by some nine years, her death having occurred May 31, 1901.

Clarence E. Stotts has followed farming as his vocation through nearly all of his life and is accounted a successful agriculturist. He has found wide play for the exercise of his large business ability as well, for he has been one of the direc-

tors of the First National Bank at Greenwich ever since its organization and has assisted in maintaining that institution upon its sound financial basis. In politics he has ever espoused the cause of the republican party, though he has never been active in its ranks nor a seeker of official recognition. He has, nevertheless, served the people of this township very efficiently as a justice of the peace and for seven years as a member of the school board and was ever found to administer his duties in accordance with what he believed to be right.

On the 19th of September, 1889, Mr. Stotts was married to Miss Mabel Loveland, who was born June 4, 1870, in New Haven township, this county, and is the only daughter of Rockwell and Roxana (Knight) Loveland. The father, who was born in New Haven township, June 9, 1838, was the son of John Loveland, who was one of the pioneers of Huron county, having come here in 1822, when he was twenty-four years of age, settling in New Haven township. His wife was Miss Calista Curtiss before her marriage. Rockwell Loveland, besides participating in the work of the pioneers, which was not completed when he became old enough to assist, fought valiantly for three years for the preservation of the Union during the Civil war. He was in the navy on the Mississippi flagship Black Hawk and was in the Red River expedition, serving under General Farragut. Mrs. Stotts' mother, who was Miss Roxana Knight before her marriage, was the daughter of William and Jane (Johnson) Knight, the former a native of Boston, Massachusetts, the latter of Connecticut. To Mr. and Mrs. Stotts three children have been born: Harold, born August 18, 1891; Alta B., born April 19, 1894; and Hazel Mae, born October 25, 1908. The children are all at home, and in the Baptist faith, which the father and mother have professed, they have been reared. A man who has been fortunate in his own affairs and has been found trustworthy in his relations to others, Mr. Stotts enjoys the respect of all who know him and the strong friendship of his Masonic brothers in particular.

SANFORD H. KING.

Sanford H. King is a retired farmer who, having passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey, is now living retired in the enjoyment of rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. He is living in North Fairfield and has spent almost his entire life in Huron county. He is a native of New York, his birth having occurred in the Empire state on the 13th of May, 1837. His parents were Elias and Catherine (Mott) King, whose family numbered but three children, the others being Barzilla and Mary. It was in the year 1838 that the parents left the east and came with their family to Ohio, establishing their home in Huron county.

Sanford H. King was only about a year old at the time and, therefore, for even more than the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten he has lived in this part of the state, witnessing its growth and development as the years have gone by. He has lived to see notable changes for the native forests have been cut away, the land cultivated and now the pioneer district is a region of val-

uable farms in the midst of which are found flourishing towns and cities with their industrial and commercial interests. In his youthful days Mr. King assisted in the labors of the home farm and experience taught him the value of industry and perseverance. His educational training was received in the public schools which he attended through the winter seasons. As he attained his majority he resolved to follow as a life work the occupation to which he had been reared and took up the task of farming on his own account. Year by year he carefully and diligently cultivated the crops best adapted to the soil and climate and as time passed won success in his labors. He is still the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Fairfield township, from which he derives a substantial income, although he is now living retired, leaving the work of the farm to others.

On the 1st of March, 1860, Mr. King was united in marriage to Miss Julia McKelvey, who was born in Ohio May 4, 1835, and is a daughter of Robert and Mary (Prosser) McKelvey. They have a large family of children: Julia, Catherine, Betsy, Almira, Harriet, Lyman, Perry, George, Angeline, Roena, Mack and Lily.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. King was blessed with four children; Eugene, born in 1860; Jennie, born in 1865; Fred, born in 1869; and Ernest, who was born in 1876 and was killed by the cars in December, 1897. Fred married Della Barre and they have one child, Lloyd. The parents are members of the Baptist church, to the support of which they make liberal contribution. Mr. King is a republican in politics and is thoroughly conversant with the leading questions and issues of the day. He has served as a trustee but has not been active as a political worker or an office seeker. His fraternal relations are with the Masons and in his life he exemplifies the benevolent spirit of the craft which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. His long residence in the county has made him well known here and his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and progressive present. Upon his memory are impressed many scenes and events of the early day which marked the progress of the community and indicated what was the condition that existed through the days of his boyhood in this part of the state.

MARTHA M. LOVELL.

One of the persons, who despite her many years, still retains a deep interest in the affairs of Greenfield township, is Mrs. Martha A. Lovell, who owns two hundred and seventeen acres of land, on which she lives, part of it being the farm on which her husband was born. Her birth occurred in Paris, now Plymouth, Ohio, on the 31st of March, 1831, her parents being Matthew and Nancy (Adams) McKelvey. The former came to Huron county with his father and an older brother and settled in Greenfield township on the farm where Robert Arthur now lives. The land was then heavily timbered, which three men had to clear before they could put up the log house which was their home while they lived there. After some years, they removed to Plymouth, where the elder McKelvey died,



MR. AND MRS. ETHAN C. LOVELL



MR. AND MRS. MATTHEW MCKELVEY

closing a career that had experienced many hardships and privations, for he had been a soldier of the Revolutionary war and had lost one of his limbs in battle.

Matthew McKelvey was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, January 30, 1794, and was but little more than twenty years of age when on the 27th of March, 1818, he was united in wedlock to Miss Nancy Adams. She was two and a half years his junior and was born in Marlboro, Vermont. Mr. McKelvey passed the greater part of his life in this county and was one of the pioneer dry-good merchants of Plymouth. Later he removed to Harding county, Ohio, where his wife and three of his daughters died, and then returned to Plymouth. There he passed away on the 18th of March, 1853, ten years and three months after his helpmate had gone to her final resting-place. Mr. and Mrs. McKelvey were the parents of ten children: Elizabeth, who was born February 12, 1819, and died 1834; Marion and Mary, twins, born January 9, 1821, the former dying June 25, 1823, the latter July 23, 1842; Sarah, who was born May 5, 1823, and died July 23, 1841; Nancy, who was born November 8, 1824, and died July 19, 1841; George, who was born June 28, 1826, and died September 18, 1827; Jane, who was born June 9, and died July 21, 1841; Martha M., now Mrs. Lovell; Matho, born February 25, 1832, now a resident of Tiffin, Ohio; and John, born February 8, 1835, who lives at Sandusky, Ohio, and is a member of the Firelands Historical Society.

Mrs. Lovell attended the public schools of Plymouth until she was 17 and for one year continued her studies at Fairfield. She then entered upon the career of a teacher, which she followed until she was married, on the 30th of December, 1854, to Ethan C. Lovell, a son of David and Mary (Chilcoat) Lovell. His father came here in the early days of the county and took up fifty acres of land which is included in the farm Mrs. Lovell now owns. At the time of his arrival the land was covered with heavy timber which he had to clear away before he could build the little log house, which was the first home of his family. Later he was able to build a fine brick residence, for he prospered in his affairs. Ethan C. Lovell was born June 17, 1819, grew up at home on the farm, and in turn, became a prominent farmer and stock raiser. He was noted for his honesty and carefulness, and it is recorded of him that he kept a regular set of books, in which were entered the transactions of each day. In 1858, he built the large frame house in which his widow still lives and which he was permitted to enjoy for forty years. A hard worker and thrifty, he made a secure position for himself in the hearts of the people of the township, who mourned his loss deeply when death called him on the 27th of April, 1898.

Not blessed with any children of her own, Mrs. Lovell has given the privileges of a home and maternal care to two girls, one of whom remained with her from the time she was six years of age until she married George Mannard, when she went to live in Virginia. Lena Clark, the other girl, was twelve years of age when she came to live with Mrs. Lovell, with whom she made her home until she married Albert Baker, of this township.

Mrs. Lovell is a very well preserved woman, who is old only in years and not in spirit, looks or actions. Her life has always been one of activity and when her husband was living she would cook all the meals for the farm hands. She also tells with a touch of pardonable pride that she did some of the painting on

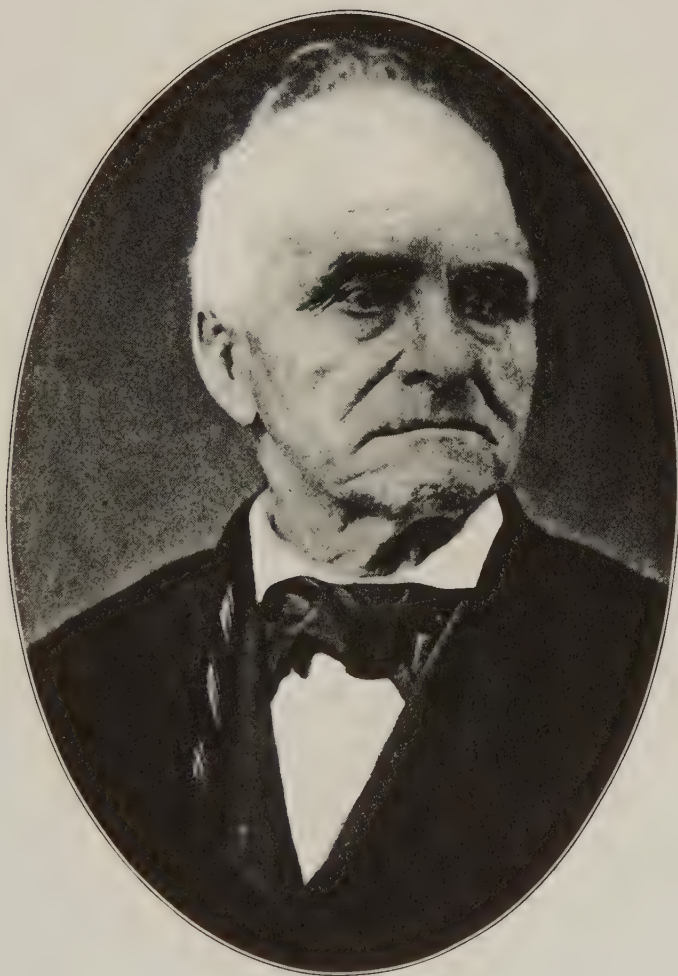
the frame house in which she now lives. From her mother, who was the first teacher in Peru township, she inherits her love of books and reading, and in the years that have passed since she presided over a roomful of pupils, she has not forgotten her interest in education or in the affairs of the world generally.

PHILANDER J. RIDDLE.

Philander J. Riddle, one of the representative farmers of Richmond township and a man who has made his influence felt in both political and church circles, is the owner of one hundred and ten acres of fertile farm land in this township. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, January 1, 1854, his parents being John and Amanda (Thornton) Riddle. The father was engaged all his life in agricultural pursuits and at the same time during earlier years he taught school, for eighteen years in the district schools and two years in the graded school at Bellville, Ohio, gaining an enviable reputation as a local educator. During the summer, when released from his school duties, he carried on farming, thus combining the two occupations very profitably. In 1865 the family came to Huron county, and this continued to be the home of the parents for the remainder of their lives, the father passing away in 1890, and his widow in 1893. They were the parents of the following children: Lydia, who married John Miller, of Chicago Junction; Archibald, who is deceased; Sybal, who married W. F. Miller; Philander J., who is mentioned below; John Jr.; Lunetta, who married George Hatch; and William, the youngest.

Philander J. Riddle spent his boyhood as do so many sons of farmers, except that he had the advantage of belonging to a family where educational matters were considered of great importance, and he therefore secured an excellent school training, first in the district schools of Knox county until he was twelve years old, and after that in Huron county, thus continuing until he attained his majority, and at the same time he assisted his father on the farm in the summer. The first land owned by Mr. Riddle was located in Richland county and consisted of a hundred-acre farm he and his brother John bought and operated in partnership for five years. Following this venture, Mr. Riddle rented his present farm from his father-in-law and when the latter died he bought it. The Richland county farm was traded for Chicago, Ohio, property. During the time he has been the owner of his Richmond township farm, Mr. Riddle has devoted himself to improving it, and has brought it into a state that makes good crops almost a certainty, so that he can depend upon an excellent income from his investment of money, time and labor.

On September 1, 1881, Mr. Riddle married Elmyra Snyder, a daughter of Hiram and Amelia Snyder, who came from the eastern part of Ohio to Huron county, being early settlers of this locality. They were the parents of the following children: Simon; Myria who married William Cheseman; Jennie; Douglas; Elmyra, who became Mrs. Riddle; Ira; and Amanda, who married John Bager. Mr. and Mrs. Riddle have had but one child of their own, Walter, but they have adopted Ray White from an orphan asylum and propose to give him the same ad-



OZIAS JOINER

vantages enjoyed by their son. This one act sheds a light upon the truly Christian characters of these two and demonstrates that they believe in living out in their lives the teachings of their church. Walter Riddle married Cora Harmon, and their children are: May, Vernice, Harold, Lois and Dalton.

Both Mr. Riddle and his wife are consistent members of the United Brethren church and are highly esteemed by their fellow members. When the present church was built he served on the building committee, while he is now church treasurer and a member of the board of parsonage trustees. For a number of years Mr. Riddle has been prominent in the republican party in this locality and is now serving as township treasurer with that same fidelity to obligations placed upon him that has resulted in his material advancement, and his winning and retaining the friendship of his neighbors and church associates.

EMMONS W. ROSS.

Emmons W. Ross is descended from men who braved the terrors, dangers and hardships of the unknown forests and hewed out not only a home for themselves but cleared land and prepared fields from which those generations that came after them would reap the gain. He is a farmer in the vicinity of Boughtonville, Ripley township, and owns the one hundred and forty-two acres on which he lives. He was born in Auburn, Auburn township, Crawford county, Ohio, September 13, 1861, and is the son of Royal R. and Mary (Aumend) Ross. The father, who was the son of Abel and Amelia (Emmons) Ross, was born in 1832 in New York, while the mother, who was a daughter of Adam Aumend, was born in Crawford county in 1840, for her parents were among the pioneers there. Through their marriage Royal R. Ross and his wife became the parents of five children: Fred, William, one who died in infancy, Howard and Emmons.

Emmons W. Ross has always been a farmer since his childhood's days, for as soon as he was able he did his share in the work that was carried on at home, and as he became older participated in the heavier labor of the fields. He experienced the same difficulty in obtaining an education that confronts the farmer's boys even today, but which were as nothing in comparison with the hardships of the preceding generations, just as his life with its comforts affords a striking contrast to that of his uncle Resolved White, who it is said built the first frame house in Norwalk, as he was the first settler who was an adept in the carpenter's trade. But whatever the conditions under which he labored, they bred in him the desire and the determination to win success. This has come to him with the passage of the years and is due to his own exertions alone.

On the 31st of March, 1893, Mr. Ross was united in marriage to Miss Daisy C. Daugherty, a daughter of D. W. and Alzina (Snyder) Daugherty. She was born in 1877 in Hardin county and was the elder of the two daughters born to her parents, Julia being the other. Mr. and Mrs. Ross have eight children: Victor, born February 5, 1894; Russell R., July 6, 1896; Virgil, November 15, 1897; Ruth, May 12, 1899; Amy, January 30, 1901; Cecil, April 5, 1903; Milo, August 3, 1906; and Glenn, May 5, 1908.

The family attend the Episcopal church at Plymouth, Ohio, and are conscientious in their practice of its teachings. When called to exercise his franchise, Mr. Ross casts his ballot for the candidate and measures of the republican party, but aside from always being present at the polls at election, which he believes to be the duty of every citizen, he takes little active part in public affairs. He is a man highly regarded, nevertheless, for the strong qualities that mark his character.

J. C. BOARDMAN.

Among the many men who have witnessed the vast changes that have transpired since the opening of the early decades of the last century is J. C. Boardman, a farmer of Boughtonville, Ripley township. More than a witness, in fact, for he felled trees where are now teeming fields and built rough roads of logs where now stretch miles of macadam or gravel. The blood of men and women who had been pioneers flowed in his veins and the quickening impulse of the new life was in the very air he breathed from birth, for his father, Benaja Boardman, was said to have been the first white child born between Seneca and Cayuga lake. His birth occurred in 1794, and as he grew to manhood the desire possessed him to become a minister of the gospel and bring the word of light to those hardy people beyond the mountains. He was ordained in the Methodist church and came west to Ohio almost immediately, where by word and deed he urged the men and women not to forget the needs of the soul and organized the congregation that they might worship in common. The field of his labors lay in this part of the state, but the influence of his life and the message he brought were not confined by any boundaries. His wife, Miss Loura Ann Hurd in her maidenhood, was a sympathetic and encouraging helpmeet. She was born in 1799 in Connecticut and like her husband came from a family that had its genesis in England. She urged him to come to this Ohio wilderness in 1827, although she well knew that it meant the rearing of her children amid hardship and poverty. There were seven born to inherit this courage from mother and father: Caleb, Joshua, Samuel, Mary, Martha, William and Benaja.

J. C. Boardman was born in Richland county, this state, March 5, 1828. In the difficult life in which the parents struggled it was early necessary that he do his share of hard, strength-requiring work, such as is not known today, for he tells with pardonable pride that at the age of fourteen he cleared an acre of timber that he might buy a pair of boots. He continued to fell trees for years, that the land might be converted into fruitful fields. Large numbers of the hewn logs were used in the construction of the historic plank roads, called corduroy roads in those days, and Mr. Boardman, still a young man, drove the ox-teams that dragged the massive tree trunks across the swamps to the place they were to be laid. With the advance in the times he has progressed; a substantial income and comforts have replaced hardships and privations; and in the growing community of Ripley township he filled a larger and larger place, a man highly respected and honored for his courage and the strength of his character. He now owns two hundred acres in Ripley township, is a stockholder in the Farmers' Bank at Green-

wich, and as trustee and school director has assisted in the promotion of the interests and welfare of his fellow citizens.

More than half a century ago Mr. Boardman was united in marriage to Miss Helen Ames. She was born in Ithaca, New York, in 1831, and was a daughter of Benjamin and Lydia (Ellis) Ames, who were of English extraction and came to Ohio in comparatively early days. On the 15th of September, 1903, the couple celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding and for five more years they were permitted to traverse life's highway together, until, on the 30th of June, 1908, Mrs. Boardman was released from the cares of this world. She was a noble wife and a good mother to the four children born of her. These are Eva, Carrie, Benjamin and Frank.

To the Methodist faith in which he was reared, Mr. Boardman has always given his adherence and in the little church of his township has taken a vital interest, having served the congregation as steward, trustee and class leader. In politics he has always given his support to the republican party, but he inclines more and more to some of the principles advocated by the prohibitionists. One of the oldest men of Ripley township, he is also one of its finest citizens, his life constantly being an example of industry, frugality and the guidance of sound principles.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL MEAD.

Jonathan Trumbull Mead, well known as a representative of agricultural life in Huron county, was born in Fitchville township, April 25, 1835. His birth occurred on the farm where he now resides, his father, Peter Mead, having taken up this tract of one hundred and sixty-three acres as a claim from the government in 1814. Peter Mead removed from Greenwich, Connecticut, to Fairfield, New York, in 1812. His father, Peter Mead, Sr., had been a soldier of the Revolutionary war, serving for seven years in defense of colonial interests and holding the rank of sergeant. When the country again became engaged in war with England his son, Peter Mead, Jr., responded to the call to arms, taking part in the war of 1812. He was afterward a pensioner of the government, receiving eight dollars per month in recognition of the aid which he had rendered on the field of battle.

Coming to Ohio at an early day Peter Mead, Jr., was one of the pioneers of Huron county and the first to establish a home in Fitchville township, taking up his abode here when much of the land was still in possession of the government. A greater part of it was covered with the native growth of timber and it required much arduous labor to transform it into productive fields. Peter Mead, Jr., however, secured his claim and took up the difficult work of preparing the land for the plow. In due course of time he made his place a productive tract, its fields yielding generous harvests. For several terms he filled the office of justice of the peace and J. T. Mead now has in his possession the law book which his father used and which was printed in 1841. He also has a dress-coat which was worn by his grandfather over eighty years ago. Peter Mead kept the first real-estate records of Huron county and was closely connected with many other labors and events

which marked the train of progress. As the work of improvement was carried on in his section of the state Peter Mead, Jr., took an active part in the transformation which was being wrought. On one occasion he gave to Amos Reynolds fifty acres of land and while assisting him in the woods, chopping down trees, both of them being barefooted at the time, Mr. Mead noticed some scars upon his companion's feet and asked how he came by them. Mr. Reynolds replied that when he was a boy fishing he, one day, fell into the water and cut his feet on some oyster shells and that he would have been drowned had it not been for the help of another boy who rescued him. Further questioning and response led to the conclusion that it was Peter Mead, who had performed the rescue, although each had lost knowledge of the other's whereabouts during the years which had elapsed after the incident had occurred.

Reared upon the frontier, Jonathan Trumbull Mead was educated in one of the old time log schoolhouses in which the district schools of that day convened. He always remained upon the home farm, for his father died when the son was but nineteen years of age and he afterward lived with his widowed mother who survived for many years, passing away July 3, 1884. In his farm work Mr. Mead was progressive and in the course of years erected new buildings upon the place and added many modern improvements which make the farm one of comfort and convenience. He is also an auctioneer, well known in connection with that work which he has followed continuously since 1855. He has conducted sales in a great many states in the Union, handling both merchandise and farm property and he still follows the same business. As the years have passed he has prospered in his undertakings, and has had extended landed possessions. Although he has recently sold one hundred acres he is still the owner of three hundred and eighty acres of choice Ohio land.

On the 26th of June, 1860, Mr. Mead was united in marriage to Miss Pamela Jane Daniels, who was born in Ruggles township, Ashland county, Ohio, August 20, 1839. Her father was William Daniels, who settled in Ashland county in pioneer times and died in 1870 at the age of sixty-two years. The mother passed away in 1906 when eighty-seven years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Mead have become the parents of four children: Rowena Jane, born July 7, 1861, and Charles Newberry, born June 19, 1873, who are still living, while Arilie Amorit and Kitty Belle have passed away.

Mr. Mead is entitled to wear the Grand Army button from the fact that he enlisted in September, 1864, in the Twelfth Ohio Independent Battery under Captain Frank Jackson. He was a representative in the third generation in the family which has done splendid military service, his grandfather having been a soldier of the Revolution, his father of the war of 1812, while his son Charles enlisted for service in the Spanish-American war with Troop A, of the First Ohio Cavalry. He supplemented his early education by study in Oberlin College.

Mr. and Mrs. Mead have spent the last six winters in Florida, thus avoiding the rigors of the northern climate. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party. Mrs. Mead attends the Congregational church, with which she has long held membership. Mr. Mead is among the oldest of the native sons of Huron county, having for seventy-four years resided within its borders so that his memory compasses the period of almost its entire growth, forming a

connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. He has seen the forests cut down and the fields cultivated until the district has been made to bloom and blossom as the rose and in the work of general improvement he has been deeply interested, bearing his full share as a public-spirited citizen.

CHARLES A. COOLEY.

Charles A. Cooley is a substantial and representative agriculturist of Wake-man township, Huron county, and comes from a family well known and prominent in the early history of this state. He was born in Brownhelm, Lorain county, on the 26th of February, 1866, a son of Charles E. and Anna A. (Bacon) Cooley, both natives of Lorain county. George Bacon, the maternal grandfather of our subject, in company with two brothers, came with his family to Ohio from Massachusetts in 1818, the family being the second to locate in Brownhelm. The district was still covered with virgin forest and the three brothers had to clear a space large enough to build their cabins. They entered large tracts of land and concentrated their efforts upon the improvement and cultivation of the same. George Bacon became very prosperous in his agricultural undertaking and was also recognized as a prominent figure in public affairs. He was a civil engineer and in this capacity assisted in a large degree in the early work of laying out and developing the community. He served as county commissioner for a number of years and was also called to other offices, being recognized as a capable and worthy citizen. Moses B. Cooley, the paternal grandfather, brought his family to Ohio from Connecticut soon after the arrival of the Bacons and likewise cast in his lot with the early settlers in this section of the country, aiding in the work of reclaiming the wild district for purposes of civilization. He, too, met with marked success in his farming pursuits and became a great worker in church circles of the community. Both grandfathers lived to a ripe old age and were well known and influential men in their different spheres.

Charles E. Cooley, the son of Moses B. Cooley, followed the occupation to which he was reared and became a prosperous farmer and one of the most extensive landowners in Brownhelm. He was also active in public affairs and served for several years as the superintendent of the Lorain county infirmary. He married Miss Anna A. Bacon and in their family were two children, George E. and Charles A. The father's death occurred in Roodhouse, Illinois, August 28, 1898, while his first wife passed away in March, 1866. In 1872 he married Miss Addie Appleby, by whom he had one daughter, Addie, now the wife of Robert Crehore. His second wife died at Bay City, Michigan, December 20, 1907.

Spending the years of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, Charles A. Cooley acquired his preliminary education in the schools of Brownhelm and later supplemented this training by a commercial course at Oberlin College. He remained at home, assisting his father in the cultivation of the fields until twenty-one years of age, when he went to South Dakota and engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He was thus connected for eighteen months and then returned to Oberlin, Ohio, where he was identified with hotel interests in connec-

tion with his uncle, B. W. Lock, for a similar period. At the expiration of that time he went to Janesville, Wisconsin, and was there engaged in the dairy business for one year.

Returning to Ohio in 1891, Mr. Cooley was united in marriage on the 16th of March of that year to Miss Jennie E. Morse, a daughter of George and Eliza (Ball) Morse, the former a prominent farmer of West Brownhelm and an extensive landowner, who was also interested in all movements for the public good. He passed away August 24, 1886, his wife still making her home in West Brownhelm. Mr. and Mrs. Cooley began their domestic life on a farm in Wakeman township, Huron county, but the latter was permitted to enjoy her home for only two years, her death occurring on the 19th of March, 1893. On the 4th of September, 1895, Mr. Cooley was again married, his second union being with Miss Ollie M. Whitney, a daughter of Theodore and Elizabeth (Parker) Whitney, of Elba, Nebraska, the father a former agriculturist of Huron county. Since his marriage Mr. Cooley has resided in Wakeman township and has devoted his time and attention to general farming and sheep raising, being a large wool and mutton dealer. He has concentrated all his energies upon his agricultural pursuits and has met with eminent success therein, being classed among the substantial farmers of his district. As he has prospered he has acquired considerable valuable property, his holdings now ranking him among the extensive landowners in his township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Cooley has been blessed with four children: Lock C., George W., Anna E. and Leota M. The parents are members of the Congregational church and are interested to a great extent in the church and Sunday school work, Mrs. Cooley acting as superintendent of the primary department of the Sunday school. She is a woman of domestic tastes, greatly devoted to her home and family, and she is highly esteemed by all who know her for her many sterling traits of character. Mr. Cooley gives loyal support to the republican party and is most active in its interests, but he has never sought nor desired public office as a reward for party fealty. He and his wife occupy an enviable place in the social circles of the community, while their residence is a favorite resort with a host of warm friends. It is well supplied with the best standard and current literature and their home is at all times dominated by a spirit of culture and refinement.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM S. FOSTER.

Among the many sons of Huron county, Ohio, who responded readily to their country's call for men to fight in her defense is notably Captain William S. Foster, who is a resident of Steuben, Greenfield township, and now lives in retirement upon a small tract of land which he owns, engaging in farming to a limited extent as a recreation rather than a means of livelihood, for the days of business are passed for him. Besides the property here Mr. Foster has some landholdings in Canada. One of Ohio's native sons, he was born in Norwalk on the 6th of November, 1838, his parents being John H. and Nancy N. (Boardman) Foster. The former was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1812, and in 1830 came with his

parents, Stephen and Mary Foster, to Ohio. The family settled in Norwalk, where the old people died, the son identifying himself with the life and interests here. He first taught school for a number of years and then was employed as clerk in the auditor's office. On going into business for himself he opened a wholesale and retail grocery, which was successfully conducted, and some years later he built the warehouse at Norwalk, which he gave into the charge of his son William S. Foster. But he did more than this for the city. After his arrival there he had acquired considerable property which he opened up for residential purposes, building several nice houses for others. One of the streets of this section has since been named Foster avenue after him. As the choice of the whig voters of the city he served as mayor before the war, although it was not the first office he had held at the request of the citizens. A good and noble man he was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church and died in that faith in 1878. His wife was born in New York state and was about fifteen years of age when her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Boardman, came to Norwalk, which was their home until their death. She likewise died there, in 1880, at the age of sixty-one, having reared a family of four children, namely: Frank, deceased; William S.; John W., deceased; and Louisa, who married Ralph King, of Toledo, Ohio.

William S. Foster attended the public schools of Norwalk and then continued his education in a college in the Catskill mountains from which he was graduated in 1853, having taken a general course. His school days over, he returned to Norwalk, where he had charge of the warehouse his father had built until the outbreak of the Civil war. Mr. Foster enjoys the distinction of having been the first man to enlist from Huron county. When the call for troops was sent through the country he was in Cleveland, but on hearing that Captain Sawyer was in Norwalk trying to muster a company, he took the first train for home and there found no one of the Norwalk Light Swords, to which he belonged and which Captain Sawyer was trying to get to enlist, had had the initiative to be the first to enroll. They needed a leader, but within an hour after Captain Foster had put down his name there were one hundred and thirty young men ready and willing to fight for the Union. They were mustered in as Company D, Eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Norwalk, Ohio, April 5, 1861, and proceeded to Cincinnati, where they joined the regiment and where their term of service was lengthened to three years. They then went to Camp Dennison and later to West Virginia, where their active participation in the war began. Captain Foster took part in the battles of Winchester and Stone River, being wounded in the neck in the latter. On this account he was sent to the hospital at Nashville but after six weeks was transferred to the hospital at Cincinnati and while there was recommended for promotion. On leaving the hospital he was given the rank of captain and was commissioned quartermaster of all the western territory, with headquarters at Fort Laramie. At the close of the war he still remained in the service in the western states for three years, helping to fight the Indians and rendering the country safe for travelers, and as he was the first from Huron county to enlist, so he was the last to leave, when on the 6th of September, 1868, he was mustered out of the service, having been in seven years and four months. When his country no longer needed his aid he came back to Norwalk and after a short time engaged in building trestles for railroads. This business took him over the greater part of the United States and

Canada, being in Charleston, South Carolina, at the time of the earthquake there. In fact he was a guest at one of the city hotels that was completely destroyed, and remained in the city for some time afterward to assist in repairing the destruction. In all he worked about thirty years at trestle building but is now living retired on his little farm, raising chickens and succulent green things.

Captain Foster has never married. He finds abundant society and companionship, however, with his fellow members of the Grand Army post at Akron, Ohio. There the reminiscences of the days of fighting are retold and the past is contrasted with the peacefulness of the present.

CHARLES C. OWEN.

Charles C. Owen, a progressive agriculturist of Greenfield township, is the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and forty-five acres. It was on this farm on the 4th of February, 1858, that he was born and here he has followed agricultural pursuits for almost half a century, the neat appearance of his property and excellent condition of everything about the place being indicative of the prosperity which he has achieved. His parents were Lafayette S. and Mary J. (Clark) Owen, the former having been born in Herkimer county, New York, the son of John Owen, who came to this county about 1836 and settled in Ripley township, where he bought the farm on which he spent the remainder of his life, passing away when he was about seventy years of age.

Lafayette S. Owen was a lad of eleven years when he came with his parents to Huron county and throughout his boyhood he pursued his studies in an old log school house, where he mastered the elementary branches of learning therein taught, during the winter months when his assistance was not needed in the fields. After reaching man's estate he was enabled to purchase the present farm of our subject from the heirs of his mother-in-law. After a life of usefulness, honesty of purpose and unfaltering industry, he here passed away in 1904. He had married Mary J. Clark, who was born April 7, 1828, and died May 30, 1902. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clark, who came from Ireland, settling in this district about the year 1820, when the entire region was covered with timber and underbrush. He bought land to a considerable extent in this locality, which he cleared and cultivated. Like most of the early settlers he built for his home a small log house and lived in this county for about thirty years, his death having occurred about 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette S. Owen became the parents of four children: Alice J., who married William Ruggles, of Peru township; Charles C., of this review; Carrie E., who makes her home with her brother on the home farm; and Fannie E., who married Charles Snyder, of Peru township.

Charles C. Owen attended the district schools during the winter months, and in the summer, assisting his father with the farm labor, learned through the school of experience valuable lessons in agriculture that served him well when, upon the death of his father, he was given full charge of the farm.



MR. AND MRS. LAFAYETTE S. OWEN

His sister, Carrie E., who yet remains at home, is his able assistant, managing the affairs of the household, while he carries on general farming. Devoting his entire time and attention to the further development of the fields, he takes no active part in politics and does not belong to any fraternal organizations. He is a man of social, genial nature, who readily wins friends, and in his business affairs his straightforward and reliable methods have won him classification with the representative agriculturists of the community.

JOSEPH H. GLEASON.

Joseph H. Gleason is one of the successful farmers of Ripley township, but he is also one of that valiant number of Ohio's sons who forsook their homes and their comforts for the sufferings of the battlefield when their country needed the support of their arms. He owns one hundred and sixteen acres of land in the vicinity of the village of Boughtonville, the farm on which he was born March 15, 1843. The Gleason family is of Scotch-Irish descent and the name Joseph has been borne by one of the sons for many generations, a great-great-grandfather of Joseph H. Gleason having been known by that cognomen and having transmitted it to his son Joseph, who in turn bestowed it upon his son who became the father of Caleb Gleason, the father of the subject of this sketch. On coming to this country the Gleason family settled in New York state, and there in Cayuga county was Caleb Gleason born. Shortly after his marriage, however, he removed to Ohio and settled on the farm which became the birthplace and has since been the home of his son Joseph H. Gleason. The woman who became his wife and the mother of his children was in her maidenhood Miss Melinda Hackett, a native of Maine, though her parents, Joseph and Sarah (Cross) Hackett, belonged to the state of New York. They were of Irish descent. Seven children were born to Caleb Gleason and his wife: Worthington, Loeta, Emily, Sarah, Charlotte, Martha and Joseph.

Joseph H. Gleason was reared at home on the farm and received what education he could from the district schools. He was not of age when the Civil war was inaugurated, but the fact of his minority did not deter him from enlisting among the first of those ready to incur the hazards of the deadly struggle. On the 9th of October, 1861, he was mustered into Company C, Sixty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and after more than four years of service was honorably discharged December 28, 1865, at Columbus, Ohio. In recognition of his bravery he was made a non-commissioned officer, serving as corporal and sergeant, for in the many engagements in which he participated several acts distinguished him from the rank and file of those about him. He fought at Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, in the Atlanta campaign, at Franklin and at Nashville, and then, after the close of the war, was sent to Texas, where he remained until brought to Columbus to be discharged. In one of the skirmishes at Buzzards Roost he was severely wounded and carries the bullet today. When his country no longer required his services Mr. Gleason returned to his Ohio home and took up the life of the farmer to which he had been reared. The years

have smiled upon his efforts, his toil has been richly remunerated, and his farm is one of the best cultivated as well as one of the most fertile of Ripley township.

On the conclusion of his career as a soldier, in 1865, Mr. Gleason was married to Miss Emeline Croxton, who was born March 23, 1843, and is a daughter of William and Susan (Gibson) Croxton, in whose family were eight children: Angeline, Emeline, Louisa, Antoinette, Samuel, Caroline, Florence and Milton. Of Mr. and Mrs. Gleason's union there have been born four children: Sherwood, Frank, Wilbur and Meda.

Politically Mr. Gleason's sympathies are with the republican party which supported the nation in her hours of trial. He is not active in its ranks, however, nor a seeker for public preferment, though he has served the township as trustee and as assessor for a number of terms. In the meetings of the Grand Army post of Ripley he revives the memories of those days when a canteen or blanket shared made men closer than brothers.

WALLACE W. KETCHUM.

Wallace W. Ketchum, who owns and operates a fine farm of three hundred acres, is recognized as one of the prominent and progressive agriculturists of New London township and in his efforts is meeting with most gratifying success. A native of New London township, Ohio, he was born October 6, 1849, and is a son of Ambrose S. and Katharine (Gates) Ketchum, both natives of Schenectady county, New York, the former's birth occurring on the 14th of March, 1817, while the latter was born on the 20th of September, 1820.

The father came to New London in 1839 and the first few years he spent in the employ of John Miller, receiving twelve dollars per month in return for his services. Upon his arrival in Ohio he had but twenty-five cents and a jack knife in his possession, but with characteristic energy and determination he set about earning a livelihood, with the ultimate ambition of sometime owning a farm of his own. He continued in the employ of Mr. Miller for two years and during that time, by industry and careful economy, he had accumulated sufficient means with which to purchase fifty acres adjoining the corporation limits of the village of Rochester, in Lorain county. Within a year, however, he traded that property for fifty acres located in New London township on the Butler road, and there he continued to reside during the remainder of his life. His entire time was devoted to the work of the farm and he became signally successful along that line, during his lifetime accumulating a property consisting of one thousand acres of rich Ohio land, almost all of which lay in one body. This property was divided among his four children at the time of his death, which occurred August 3, 1896. Together with general farming he had engaged in raising large quantities of stock and this branch of his business was a source of gratifying additional profit. He was a man of fine judgment and keen mind, and possessed certain qualities which, had he enjoyed proper educational advantages, would have made him an excellent jurist. His advice and counsel were frequently sought by his fellowmen and be-

cause of the reputation which he had gained for his wisdom and veracity, his word was always taken as authority, its correctness never being doubted.

In 1842 he had wedded Miss Katharine Gates, with whom he happily traveled life's journey until his death. He was a stalwart supporter of the republican party and passed away in the faith of the Free Will church. The mother was a woman of excellent characteristics, of a motherly, domestic nature, whose every thought was for her family while she was untiring in her efforts to make the home attractive for those she loved. She survived her husband for more than a decade, passing away in December, 1908. In their family were four children, namely: Emma H., who was born in 1845; Wallace W., of this review; Alonzo S., born on the 14th of March, 1852; and Earl M., born in the year 1863. Prior to the father's death the three sons all remained upon the homestead, assisting in the operation of the farm and conducting the work in unison, up to the time of the father's demise, when the property was divided.

Wallace W. Ketchum, whose name introduces this review, together with the other members of his family, enjoyed the advantages of good common school education, and as stated the early period of his life was passed under the parental roof. He was united in marriage on the 26th day of December, 1871, to Miss Helen M. Thomas, and they began their domestic life upon the farm which is now his place of residence. His farm consists of three hundred acres of fine farming property, to the further development and cultivation of which he has since directed his time and attention. He has put about two thousand five hundred dollars worth of improvements upon the farm since it came into his possession, has equipped it with all of the modern conveniences and accessories, and it stands today a model farm in all of its appointments. He has devoted his time and attention to general farming, and in the conduct of his business affairs has used up-to-date and progressive methods, and he ranks among the substantial, enterprising and successful agriculturists of New London township.

With the passing of the years the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum has been blessed with three children. The eldest son, Clarence W. Ketchum, was born on the 6th of September, 1872, and on the 2d of June, 1903, he met his death in a collision on a street car line a few miles east of Norwalk, Huron county. Lee H. Ketchum, the second in order of birth, was born June 15, 1874, and is now residing upon the home farm with his parents. He was married, on Christmas day, 1895, to Miss May McAfee, and unto this union have been born four children, namely: Wilber W., born August 23, 1898; Lester H., October 25, 1899; Morris G., December 18, 1902; and Lawrence G., June 9, 1908. The youngest son, Verne V. Ketchum, who was born on the 17th of May, 1879, was married on the 25th of December, 1906, to Miss Ethel Weston. Well known and highly respected throughout the community, he is a young man of unusual ability along financial lines. He is now the cashier of the Farmers & Citizens Banking Company at Monroeville, Ohio, which position he has held for the past four years. It was through his ability and enterprise that the Monroeville Organ Company was saved from ruin and placed upon a firm, paying basis, while other enterprises have been organized and carried to a successful point through his good judgment and industry. He is a worthy son of an honored father, and one of whom any parents might well be proud.

In his political allegiance Mr. Ketchum is a stalwart republican, giving loyal support to the party at the polls, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, desiring, as he does, to devote his entire time and energies to the conduct of his private business affairs. He holds membership with the Free Will Baptist church, and his life is at all times in harmony with its professions. Throughout his entire career he has been guided by the most honorable principles and his self-reliance and unfaltering industry, combined with his integrity, constitute the salient features in his success.

WILLIAM H. LUTZ.

William H. Lutz, whose industry and enterprise are meeting with creditable success, owns and operates a farm of seventy acres located in Ripley township, where he is well known as a progressive and prosperous agriculturist. He was born January 29, 1854, in Ashland county, a son of Samuel and Susan (Kimmel) Lutz. The former, who was born on the 10th of September, 1825, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, was the eldest child born unto John and Sarah (Beamer) Lutz, the others being John, Manuel, Elias, Catherine and Sarah. The mother was born in Stark county, Ohio, April 25, 1828, a daughter of David and Susan (Welker) Kimmel, and a sister of Joseph, Michael, Henry, Lydia and Nancy Kimmel. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lutz were born the following children: Aaron, Samuel, Frank, Charles, Sadie and William H.

Reared under the parental roof, William H. Lutz acquired his education in the district schools of his native county, where he gained a good knowledge of the various branches of English learning. After laying aside his text-books he taught school for six years, proving himself an efficient instructor, clearly and readily imparting to others the knowledge which he had himself acquired. Later, however, thinking that the occupation to which he had been reared would prove more profitable, he took up agricultural pursuits and in that line of activity has since been actively engaged. He now owns a farm of seventy acres in Ripley township, upon which he has resided for seventeen years, and during that time he has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. He practices rotation of crops, gives close study to the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and the proper care of same, and in the conduct of his business is progressive and up-to-date, his close application and good management of his affairs gaining him a high rank among the representative agriculturists of the township.

William H. Lutz was united in marriage on the 25th of September, 1879, to Miss Mary A. McQuate, whose birth occurred in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, March 30, 1856. She was the daughter of Henry and Mary A. (Garman) McQuate, whose family consisted of the following children, John, Henry, Amanda, Susanna, Emma, Caroline and Mary. As the years passed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lutz was blessed with two children, namely, Ray and Melvin. The latter was married in 1904 to Miss Emma Watman, by whom he has one child, Vera. Mr. Lutz and his wife are members of the German Baptist church, otherwise known as the Church of the Brethren, the teachings thereof constituting the

guiding influence of their lives. In politics Mr. Lutz is a republican, giving stalwart support to that party at the polls, although the honors and emoluments of public office have held no attraction for him. He served as a member of the board of education for a number of years, and the cause of education found in him a warm champion. Throughout the long years of his residence in Ripley township he has gained an extensive circle of friends who hold him in high regard, and his salient characteristics are such as constitute him a desirable and valuable citizen in any community in which he resides.

THADDEUS W. HACKETT.

Thaddeus W. Hackett is well known in Huron county, where he still owns an excellent farm. However, he is now engaged in business in Mount Dora, Florida, where he is conducting an undertaking establishment, while in that state he also owns and controls an orange grove. One of Huron county's native sons, he was born in Ripley township on the 9th of December, 1843, and is a son of Wheeler and Lydia (Bowlby) Hackett. His paternal grandparents were Joseph and Sally (Frost) Hackett and they reared a family of eight children, namely: Wheeler, Alinda, Lovenia, Charlotte, Elon, Curtis, Eron and Lewis. This number included the father of our subject who, having arrived at years of maturity, wedded Lydia Bowlby, a daughter of Samuel and Martha Bowlby. Their children were: Sarah, Matilda, Lydia, George, Nelson, William, Alfred, Eliza, Manuel, Edward, Elizabeth and Samuel. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Hackett was blessed with but three children: Thaddeus, Samuel and Edward.

The first named spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farm lads, his time being divided between the work of the fields, the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. When he had reached man's estate he was married, Miss Lora Malvina Thomas becoming his wife on the 3d of September, 1865. She was born on the 9th of June, 1847, and was a daughter of Levi and Laura (Hoag) Thomas, whose family numbered but three children, her sister and brother being Alice and Floyd Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Hackett have no children of their own, but have reared an adopted daughter, Blanch L., who was born in 1881 and became a member of their household when twenty-two months old. She is now the wife of Frank Daniel and has four children: Harold, Ray, Edith and Frank.

Mr. Hackett was well known in the business circles of Huron county for a considerable period. For twelve years he conducted an undertaking establishment in North Fairfield and then removed south to Mount Dora, Florida, where for seven years he has continued in the same business. During the dark days of the Civil war he offered his services to the government, enlisting when only eighteen years of age, on the 9th of August, 1862, as a member of Company D, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was made bugler of his regiment and saw considerable active service, taking part in many of the most important battles of the war. He received honorable discharge on the 25th of March, 1864, in Tennessee, and now holds membership in the Grand Army of the

Republic. Fraternally he is also connected with the Masonic lodge at Fairfield, with the Eastern Star, to which his wife also belongs, and is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Norwalk. Politically he is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated in his membership in the Universalist church. Throughout Huron county he has many friends who have known him from boyhood, and the high regard in which he is uniformly held shows that his has been a well spent and upright life.

CHARLES L. MILLER.

Charles L. Miller, although one of the more recent additions to the bar of Greenwich, has already gained recognition as a member of the legal fraternity worthy of a liberal public clientage, his years seeming no bar to his advancement in his chosen field of labor. One of Ohio's native sons, he was born in Greenfield township, Huron county, on the 24th of August, 1883, his parents being Charles and Sophronia (Noble) Miller, both of whom were natives of this county. The paternal grandfather, John Miller, came from England and settled in Huron county, Ohio, where he devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, the maternal grandfather also being engaged in that occupation. The father, Charles Miller, died in Michigan, where he was then residing, in July, 1883, a month before the birth of his son and only child.

After the death of the father the mother returned to Huron county, Ohio, and in the schools of Greenfield township Charles L. Miller acquired his early education. This training was later supplemented by study at the Fairfield high school, the Wharton high school and the Shiloh high school, the latter in Richland county, from which he was graduated with the class of 1903. The following two years were devoted to teaching, after which he took up the study of law under the direction of S. L. Americus, an attorney of Greenwich. He continued thus for two years, becoming thoroughly versed in the fundamental principles of the profession, and then pursued a one year's course in the Detroit College of Law, after which he was matriculated in the law department of the Ohio Northern University. He was awarded his Bachelor of Law degree by that institution in June, 1908, and a short time afterward opened up an office in Greenwich, becoming the successor of his former preceptor, S. L. Americus. Although it is well known that success at the bar is proverbially slow, nevertheless Mr. Miller has been most successful from the start and has already been accorded a gratifying and growing clientage. He is an intelligent young man, with the laudable ambition to succeed in his profession, and the fact that he has brought to the starting point of his legal career those qualities indispensable to the lawyer—a keen, rapid, logical mind, plus the business sense—and more than all a ready capacity for hard work, combined with a thorough grasp of the law and the ability accurately to apply its principles, argues well for future prominence and success in his chosen calling.

In politics Mr. Miller is independent, preferring to give his support to the men and measures in his mind best adapted to subserve general welfare. He is not, however, remiss in matters of citizenship but on the contrary is public spirited to a marked degree, taking an active part in various affairs of public moment. He

is a strong advocate of public improvements and drew up the first petition for paved streets in Greenwich. He persevered in the agitation of the matter until he succeeded in having at least one mile of paved streets laid in the city. Fraternally he is a member of Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., and attends the services of the Methodist Episcopal church, although not holding membership therein. A great student, he possesses a fine miscellaneous and law library, and he is well equipped by training and natural endowment to make a most successful practitioner at the bar.

DON J. YOUNG.

Don J. Young, who has the honor of being the youngest prosecuting attorney ever elected in the state of Ohio, was born in Norwalk, on the 8th of May, 1884. He is a son of S. M. and Isabelle (Wagner) Young, the former an attorney of Norwalk, of whom extensive mention is made in another part of this volume.

Don J. Young received his early education in the common schools and later pursued a course in law at Western Reserve College, in Cleveland, Ohio. He engaged in the practice of law for a short time but is now serving his first year as prosecuting attorney of Norwalk county, having been elected to this office in 1908. Something of his personal popularity in the community is indicated in the fact that he was elected to his present office on the democratic ticket in a strong republican county, being the youngest prosecuting attorney ever elected in Ohio, as he was but twenty-four years of age at the time of his election. He has already given promise of a bright future, for along with those qualities indispensable to the lawyer—a keen, rapid, logical mind plus the business sense and a ready capacity for hard work—he has also brought to this, the starting point of his legal career, eloquence of language and a strong personality.

On the 29th of July, 1908, Mr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Elaine M. Dennis, who was born August 7, 1883, and is a daughter of Lloyde B. and Eliza Celestina (Yale) Dennis. Mrs. Young on the maternal side comes of Welsh lineage, her great-grandfather, Benjamin Yale, tracing his ancestry back to the little rock-ribbed country, while he is a direct descendant of David Yale. The Yale family early settled in America, representatives of the name having come from Wales to this country in 1637, settlement being made in New Haven. Moses Yale, the son of Benjamin Yale, was born October 5, 1808, in Rhinebeck, Dutchess county, New York. Early in life he came alone to Norwalk, Ohio, and here began work in the Reflector printing office as a typesetter, remaining in that position until after he was married, when he became identified with the grocery business, in which connection he remained until he retired from active business life, after he had passed the sixtieth milestone on life's journey. During his residence here he purchased the old jail building and moved it across the corner where the Taber store now stands, after which he sold it, realizing what was considered in those days a handsome profit. On September 22, 1832, he had married Miss Ann Rowland, a native of Putnam county, New York, who was born on the 1st of August, 1812. The marriage occurred in Huron county, Ohio, and of the children

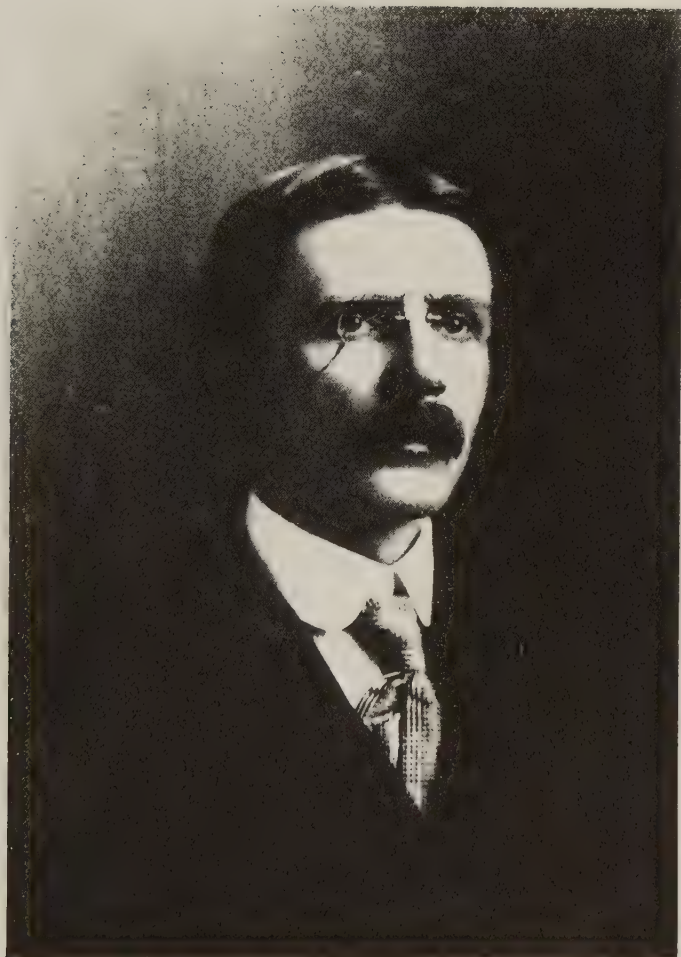
born unto that union three are yet living, Mrs. H. S. Mitchell, Mrs. L. B. Dennis and Charles Yale. Mr. Yale passed away at the ripe old age of eighty-two years, after a long and severe illness.

Lloyde B. Dennis, who married Miss Eliza Celestina Yale, a daughter of Moses Yale, was born August 12, 1837, in Oswego county, New York, while the date of his wife's birth was February 22, 1843. He took his first step in the business world as a telegraph operator, but on the 19th of April, 1861, he laid aside all personal matters and enlisted as a member of Company H, Fifteenth New York Volunteer Engineers, under Captain Ketchum, in Colonel Murphy's division. In December of that year he was transferred to the Telegraph Corps and was sent to Virginia and Kentucky, where he served for a long time with General Fremont as his private telegrapher. He was thus engaged until August 13, 1863, when he was discharged at Catlettsburg, Kentucky. Later he was attached to the commissary department and remained in the service until the close of the war. After his return home he directed his attention to the lumber business, handling the lumber from the time that, as a log, it was cut from the stump until it was made into furniture. He was identified with other interests also, at one time acting in the capacity of engineer with the Standard Oil Company. He has now, however, retired from active business and is enjoying a well earned rest after many years of hard labor. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis was blessed with four children, namely: Washington Yale, born January 10, 1868; Edith, who died in infancy; Paul, born December 12, 1879, who passed away March 25, 1908; and Elaine M., the wife of Don J. Young, the subject of this review. The children were all educated at Norwalk high school and the son is a very prominent real-estate dealer in Minneapolis.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Don J. Young has been blessed with one little daughter, Celestina Elaine, who is the light and life of the household. The young couple are very popular in the social circles of Norwalk, where they have a wide circle of warm friends, and Mr. Young, not only by reason of the gratifying position he has attained in professional circles of this city but also because of his upright manhood and his many sterling traits of character, has won the respect, confidence and good will of his fellow citizens, the concensus of public opinion according him high rank among the prominent, representative and influential citizens of the community.

AUGUST A. RUFFING.

August A. Ruffing, the president and superintendent of the Gallup-Ruffing Handle Company of Norwalk, is numbered among the worthy native sons of Huron county, his birth having here occurred on the 23d of February, 1871. He obtained a good practical education in the common schools of this county and assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm until he had attained the age of twenty-one years. He then secured employment in the factory of C. W. Smith, where he remained for three years and subsequently removed to Chicago, working in a factory there for about eight months. At the end of that time, he



A. A. RUFFING

returned to Norwalk, where he remained for a short time and then went back to the home farm. Later he made his way to Miami county, Ohio, where he accepted a position with a firm that was extensively engaged in the manufacture of wooden handles, remaining in that employ for five years. On the expiration of that period, he once more returned to Norwalk and in August, 1902, organized the Gallup-Ruffing Handle Company, of which he was made president and has continued as the chief executive officer of the company to the present time. The concern was organized for twenty thousand dollars under the laws of the state of Delaware and has since been incorporated under the laws of the state of Ohio. In the first year, the business of the company amounted to about twenty-five thousand dollars and during the seven years of its existence, has increased to sixty thousand dollars—a fact that would seem to augur well for its continued success and prosperity. The shipments of the house extend throughout the United States, Canada and many foreign countries and the volume of their trade is constantly increasing. The plant is equipped with all of the latest machinery, some of which is the original design of the proprietors and fifty-five workmen are employed in the conduct of the business. H. A. Gallup is the secretary, treasurer and financial manager of the concern, while Mr. Ruffing acts in the capacity of president and superintendent and the success which has attended the enterprise is attributable in large measure to his excellent management, sound judgment and keen discrimination. He is now widely recognized as a prominent representative of the industrial interests of his native county and his life record stands as a splendid example of what can be accomplished through force of character and unfaltering diligence.

On the 1st of August, 1899, Mr. Ruffing was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Marsh, who was born in Huron county, March 6, 1874, her father being Thaddeus Marsh, an agriculturist of this county. They now have three children: Clare A., Clement H. and Veronica. In his political views, Mr. Ruffing is a stalwart republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Catholic church. His good qualities, and they are many, have strongly endeared him to those with whom he has been associated and wherever he is known he is popular with a large circle of friends.

GEORGE H. DAWSON.

George H. Dawson, who is one of the progressive farmers of Richmond township, Huron county, Ohio, has had a long and valuable experience as an agriculturist and shows the result of it in his work on his fine farm of one hundred and thirty-four acres. In addition to this property, he also owns one hundred and forty-nine and three-quarter acres in Richland county. Mr. Dawson was born in Richmond township, Huron county, May 26, 1864, his parents being James B. and Mary (Dickison) Dawson. When he was twenty-one years old, his father left England, his native land, hoping to find a broader field of operation in the new world. By occupation he was a farmer and was so successful that he was able to live retired during the last quarter of a century of his life. His death occurred

November 11, 1908, and he was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife in 1870. She had borne him the following children: J. W.; A. H.; Eliza J., who married W. G. Channey; George H.; and J. E. Later he married Julia Sweetland and their children were as follows: H. S., D. F., C. A., R. A. and Mary, who married D. W. Hillis.

Until he was nineteen, George H. Dawson attended the district school and made the most of his opportunities, although a year before he completed his course he was called upon to assume the management of his father's farm, and for the following twenty-five years he cultivated the property. In the meanwhile he invested in his two farms, and in 1909 he moved upon the Richmond township one and has since devoted his attention to improving and developing it.

In February, 1883, Mr. Dawson married Minerva Post, a daughter of William B. and Rebecca Post, who were early settlers in Huron county, where both are still residing. Mrs. Dawson belongs to a family that is as follows: Rosetta, who married J. H. Hord; Luella, who married S. N. Duffy; Minerva, who is Mrs. Dawson; Ida, who married M. L. Williams; W. C. Emmery; Anna, who married J. W. Stevens; and Ethel, who married Bert Steel. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson are the parents of the following children: I. L., Edna, Addie, Bertha, Adelbert, Altie and Laura. In politics he is a republican. The family belong to the United Brethren church and give that body their hearty support both in contributions and work. They are well liked in the neighborhood, and Mr. Dawson is recognized as a good farmer and excellent business man.

D. H. CLARK.

D. H. Clark, a resident farmer of Peru township, numbered among the men of unfaltering enterprise and progressive spirit, is successfully cultivating one hundred and seventeen acres of highly improved land. Although now seventy-six years of age, he yet gives personal supervision to the further development of his farm and his life record of unfaltering and intelligently directed activity should put to shame many a man of much younger years but of less resolute spirit who would relegate to others the burdens he himself should bear.

Mr. Clark is a native of New England, his birth having occurred in Vermont, July 21, 1833. His parents were Daniel and Diana (Warner) Clark. The father, who was born May 3, 1806, died in 1862, while his wife, whose birth occurred Aug. 9, 1806, passed away on the 30th of October, 1881. They came to Huron county, Ohio, in 1834, when it was still a frontier district, the work of improvement and development seeming scarcely begun. Many changes have occurred during that time and D. H. Clark has been a witness of the entire transformation. On reaching Huron county, the family settled in Peru township, and the father, who was a carpenter and joiner by trade, assisted in building a number of the log houses and barns in the locality in that early day. He also erected a log cabin for himself, and he and his family occupied that little home for a long time. He worked diligently upon his farm but never allowed his business affairs to exclude

his interest in religious matters. He was a prominent man in the church and assisted in building the house of worship for the Universalists at Peru in 1840. He belonged to that church throughout his entire life, held a number of offices therein and was very active in the church work. In his family were eight children. Mariette, who was born September 22, 1831, married Lyman Johnson and both are now deceased. D. H. is the second in the family. Dean, who was born December 6, 1834, died August 10, 1863. Henry, born July 19, 1836, died April 20, 1888. Warner, born May 24, 1838, died February 2, 1849. Cornelia, who was born February 1, 1842, died January 28, 1849. Francis M., born October 8, 1844, died March 5, 1849. Mary I., born January 22, 1848, died February 5, 1849. Thus four of the children died within a few days of each other in the year 1849.

D. H. Clark of this review has spent nearly his entire life in this part of Ohio, save for a few years which he passed in Kansas when a young man. He learned the carpenter's trade in his youthful days and followed that pursuit until about forty-five years of age, during which time he built a large number of houses and barns in his vicinity. In 1883 he erected the commodious residence which he now occupies and which stands as a monument to his thrift, skill and industry. His life has been a busy and useful one, and his success is the merited reward of earnest and persistent labor. Since his retirement from industrial lines he has given his attention to agricultural pursuits and is now cultivating an excellent tract of land of one hundred and seventeen acres, constituting one of the finely improved farms of the county.

Mr. Clark has always been interested in everything relating to the public welfare and has cooperated in many movements for the general good. He has served as school director for a number of years and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. He has always belonged to the Universalist church and at the present time is the treasurer and one of the trustees of the church at Peru. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, although he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Clark was married March 1, 1865, to Miss Melvina Barker, a daughter of Robert and Lucy (Standish) Barker, who were early settlers of Peru township. Mrs. Clark was born upon the farm which is now her home in a little log cabin, in which her parents were living. They had come to Ohio from the state of New York when still single and were married in this county in 1837. Her father was born August 10, 1809, and her mother's birth occurred in March of the same year. Both are now deceased, Mr. Baker having passed away July 6, 1877, while his wife died on the 25th of October, following. They were, therefore, separated in death for but a brief period. They became the parents of three children: Liddie, who married Austin Patterson and is now a widow living in California; Mrs. Clark; and John, deceased. Mrs. Clark is one of the direct descendants of Miles Standish. By her marriage she became the mother of one son, Dean B., who was born October 18, 1878, and married Altah Baker, a daughter of Wilson E. and Mary Pauline (Barnum) Baker, of Licking county, Ohio. They were married March 1, 1900, and have two children: Walter B. and Mary Louise. They reside upon the old homestead with his father and Dean B. Clark now operates the farm.

Few citizens of the county can boast a longer residence here than D. H. Clark, who for seventy-five years has lived in Huron county and has been an interested witness of its growth and development. He has lived to see the forests cut away, the land reclaimed and converted into rich fields. He can remember the time when the harvesting was done with the scythe and the cradle, for it was not until he had become a factor in agricultural life that the modern reaper, mower and steam thrasher were introduced nor was the riding plow known in the period of his boyhood. The labor of the farm was much more arduous than at the present time. The homes of the settlers, too, were in many cases log cabins, and they were heated by fireplaces and lighted by candles and later by kerosene lamps. Mr. Clark has lived to see remarkable changes, carrying the county forward to its present state of progress when the agriculturist enjoys the advantages of the telephone and the rural mail delivery as well as the benefits of all the modern farm machinery which has so completely revolutionized the work of the fields.

GILBERT M. WOOD.

Gilbert M. Wood, one of the hard-working and quiet farmers of Fitchville township, Huron county, was born in New London township, February 1, 1862, a son of Willis and Hilda (Springstead) Wood. The mother was a native of this county, but the father was born in Putnam county, New York, and was only six years of age when his parents came to Ohio, settling in New London township, Huron county. He followed the life of a farmer, was a man of fine character and intelligence, but of a retiring disposition, so that he was not well known beyond his immediate circle of friends and acquaintances. He was quite a sportsman, however, and enjoyed nothing more than a seat on a fine horse, behind a leash of hounds, in pursuit of a fox. A good shot and a successful trapper, he yet derived more pleasure from the spirit of the chase than from the value of the pelts he secured. He died in October, 1886, leaving a widow and two sons, William J. and Gilbert M., who still survive.

Gilbert M. Wood was reared at home on his father's farm, and received his education in the district schools of New London and Fitchville townships. All his life he has been a farmer, even in the period of his childhood and youth assisting with the work on the home place and assuming responsibility as his age and strength increased. In 1886 he began life on his own account, engaging in farming in the neighborhood in which he had been reared. In 1892 he removed to Fulton county, Ohio, where for three years he devoted himself to agriculture, returning to his farm in Fitchville in 1895. On this he has since made his home, practicing a general line of farming, for which his land is excellently adapted.

In October, 1886, Mr. Wood was married to the woman of his choice, Miss Minnie Post, an orphan girl of German descent. To this union have been born two children: a son, Willis W., a bookkeeper employed by the Honing Electric Company, of Cleveland, Ohio; and a daughter, Lillian, who remains at home.

Mr. Wood is deeply interested at all times in the matters that concern the public and the welfare of the citizens of this land, but he has never actively en-

gaged in politics nor has he sought or filled any office within the gift of the people. He believes, strongly, however, that every man should exercise his right of franchise, and so is unfailingly at the polls on election day, when his vote is cast for the democratic candidate and for democratic measures. But for all his reluctance to enter the public arena, he is a public-spirited man, an advocate of good government and progress, who gives his influence to the promotion of better conditions. He is particularly interested in the advancement of education in the township and in the improvement of the roads.

JESSE E. WHEELER.

The enterprising village of Chicago Junction has various citizens who continually conserve its interests by their activity in business lines as well as through their relation to public affairs. In this class Jesse E. Wheeler was numbered, having for twenty years been engaged in the dry-goods business here. As a merchant he was very successful and was looked upon by everyone as one of the most agreeable and accommodating business men of the city. He passed away October 2, 1909, and the fact that one thousand people gathered to pay their last tribute of respect to him was indicative of his high standing in the community. One of the native sons of the county, his birth occurred in Greenfield township, January 22, 1854. His father, Calvin Wheeler, was born in the state of New York and when a boy came to Huron county with his father, John Wheeler, who settled in Greenfield township, casting in his lot with the pioneer residents who were actively engaged in the arduous task of reclaiming wild land for the purposes of civilization. He cleared away the timber, turned the first furrows and in course of time gathered good harvests as a reward for his labors. Upon the farm which he developed and tilled he reared his family and lived to a ripe old age, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was a man of strong character and religious nature and for many years was a local preacher in the Baptist church, so that he was uniformly styled Elder Wheeler throughout the entire community. He reached the venerable age of ninety-two years.

Calvin Wheeler, reared amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life, engaged in merchandising in Greenfield after attaining his majority. Meeting with success in business he continued as an active representative of commercial interests there for many years and by reason of his straightforward dealing enjoyed the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact. He died in Chicago Junction, May 22, 1896, having for forty years survived his wife, who passed away on the 5th of March, 1866. She bore the maiden name of Mary Richards and was a native of New York. In her girlhood days she came with her parents to Huron county, the family settling on the present site of Chicago Junction. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Wheeler were twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, namely: Janette, who is deceased; Agnes; David, who has departed this life; Ben; Judson, also deceased; Chauncey; J. E. and J. A., twins; Alice and Alfred, twins; Lillis, and Linda.

J. E. Wheeler was indebted to the country schools for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed. He pursued his studies through the winter months and in the summer seasons worked on his father's farm, toiling in the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn. In 1875, when twenty-one years of age, he went to California, where he remained for ten years, giving his time to various pursuits. In 1885 he returned to Ohio and joined his brother, J. A. Wheeler, in the mercantile business in Steuben, Ohio, until 1889, when he came to Chicago Junction and opened a dry-goods store in an old frame building. Upon the completion of the opera house block the business was removed to its present location and there he conducted a well appointed store, supplied with all modern conveniences to facilitate the conduct of the trade. In the years which came and went prior to his death he built up a very extensive business. His sister Alice, now Mrs. Barber, was his partner in the enterprise from the time that he opened the store in Chicago. He was a man of progressive methods and the business was well managed, the stock thoroughly up-to-date in every particular and the trade of the house constantly grew. He made a study of the wishes of the people and his reasonable prices and honorable dealings constituted salient features in his success. His methods were always of a constructive character and never was he known to take advantage of the necessities of another in business transactions.

In 1890 Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage to Miss Mary Keesy, a native of Huron county and a representative of an old pioneer family. Her father, the Rev. W. A. Keesy, was a minister in the United Brethren church and his life was an influencing factor in the moral development of the community. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler was born one son, Raymond. The parents held membership in the United Brethren church and Mr. Wheeler was also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In his life work he was actuated by laudable ambition and his record at all times was characterized by intelligent and well directed effort and by unswerving integrity and progressive methods.

For some months prior to his demise he complained of not feeling well and friends urged him to rest from business for a time, but he felt that he must continue his attention to the store and did so until stricken with typhoid fever. He never recovered and on the 2d of October, 1909, passed away, his death coming as a distinct loss to the entire community. He always sought to do unto others as he would have them do unto him and was, therefore, a close follower of the golden rule. A lover of justice, his treatment of others was fair and his word was as good as a written promise. He never neglected his obligations nor his duties, was recognized as a man of determined character and one who maintained an unequivocal position upon any vital question. He was a friend and wise counsellor in time of trouble and he gave liberally to charity. He was one of the first men to become a member of the Railroad Young Men's Christian Association and had continuously served as its treasurer since its organization. His funeral was one never to be forgotten by those who were in attendance. The services were of a most impressing character and all business houses of the city were closed from one thirty until four o'clock, and it is said that every firm was represented at the funeral.

Steadfastness of purpose, an unselfish life and purity of heart were manifest in the career of Jesse E. Wheeler and will long be remembered by those who knew him, and constituted an example well worthy of emulation. He stood for all that is highest and best in manhood and in citizenship and was at all times loyal to the public welfare and faithful in his friendships, but his best traits of character were reserved for his own home and fireside, where he was known as a most devoted and worthy husband and father, neglecting no opportunity to promote the happiness and welfare of his wife and son, whose interests he ever counted above his own. He left the impress of a noble soul upon the community with which he was identified through two decades.

JACOB KOTZ.

One of the older generation of farmers of Ripley township, whose persistent efforts in the cultivation of crops have been rewarded with pronounced success is Jacob Kotz. Although not a native of this state, for the past twenty-eight years he has been one of its citizens and has taken a deep interest in the welfare of his township, welcoming and advancing any movements that make for its improvement. He was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania April 3, 1838. His parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Schuman) Kotz, were also natives of the Keystone state and reared a family of twelve children: John, Sarah, Edward, Isaac, Mary, Charity, Jacob, Rebecca, Christina, Catherine, Daniel and Charles. The paternal grandparents of Jacob Kotz were Henry and Charity (Snyder) Kotz.

Jacob Kotz was reared to agricultural pursuits. The educational facilities of his native state, though better than those in the territory farther west at the same period, were none too good as affording a preparation to meet the problems of life. Such as they were Jacob Kotz partook of them, working on the farm with his father in the spring, summer and early fall months, preparing his lessons and attending school when the inclemency of the season made outdoor labor impossible. The training was effective, though perhaps hard, for Mr. Kotz has been successful in his operations when he embarked on farming as his own vocation, by means of which he made a home for himself and family. In 1881 he came to Ripley township and settled upon the land on which he lives today. Since his arrival here he has entered into the spirit of this locality, raised his voice, as one of the school board, for the betterment of the schools, and when the Boughtonville Telephone Company was organized, bought stock in the concern, became one of its promoters and is still interested in its financial stability.

On the 3d of November, 1860, Mr. Kotz and Miss Mary Ann Bitts were united in marriage. Mrs. Kotz was born January 5, 1840, in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Rasley) Bitts, and the granddaughter of Henry Bitts. She was the youngest of the four children born to her parents, the others being Reuben, Sarah and Elizabeth. To Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Kotz have been born six children: Elizabeth, who was born July 20, 1861, married Jacob Snyder, and they have two sons, Franklin and Charlie. Uriah, who was born February 7, 1863, passed away at the age of two. Emma Frances,

born March 15, 1865, married Fred Beelman and they have a son, Chester. Catherine, born January 5, 1871, became the wife of William Bender and the mother of seven children: Essel; Bessie; Mildred; Mabel, who died at the age of two years; and triplets who died at birth. Ida, who was born July 19, 1877, married Charles Wentz. Frank, the youngest of the family, born February 7, 1880, married Miss Bertha McCormick and they have one daughter, Gertrude Irene.

The family were reared in the tenets of the Lutheran faith and still adhere to its doctrines. Politically Mr. Kotz is a firm democrat, though he is not prominent in party affairs. He enjoys pleasant fraternal relations with the Masons and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed the third degree in the former and being past grand in the latter.

E. BIGLOW.

E. Biglow, a pioneer in the utilization of the rich clay deposits in the vicinity of New London and the founder and promoter of an important industrial enterprise, is now extensively and successfully engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile. He was born upon a farm in Lorain county, Ohio, June 28, 1845, and is a son of Daniel and Martha (Stranahan) Biglow, natives of Ohio and Connecticut respectively. The parents were identified with the farming interests of Lorain county, where E. Biglow was reared to agricultural pursuits. Acquiring his early education in the country schools at the same time he received thorough and ample training in farm work as through the summer months, he assisted in the labors of the fields. He continued to engage in farming until the age of twenty-eight years, when he opened a general store in Westview, which he conducted for nineteen years. That enterprise proved a profitable and growing one, but at the end of six years his health failed, owing to the close confinement of the store and he partially withdrew from mercantile pursuits to give his time and energies to brick and tile making, taking up that line of manufacture in Columbia, Lorain county. He started the business on a very modest scale, but by close attention, unremitting energy and earnest study of processes of manufacture and the adoption of practical methods, he prospered as the years went by, continuing at that location until 1897. By keeping in touch with everything concerning his line of business, he came to know of the wonderful clay deposits at New London and foresaw great possibilities there. Removing to this place in 1897, he established his business in a small way, paying thirty-five hundred dollars for the land and taking up the manufacture with five employees operating one kiln. At that time his son, E. O. Biglow, was old enough to join him and together they have built up from this humble beginning a business which is one of the important industries of the county and of which New London has every reason to be proud. They now employ fifty men, operate eight kilns and have made many improvements in their plant. They have erected a fine plant equipped with the most modern machinery and there is a constant and growing demand for their products, including tile and brick. Their output is sent to many states, being shipped to the eastern seaboard, to Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina.



MR. AND MRS. E. BIGELOW

They also have a very extensive trade in northern Ohio and the indications are that the business will constantly increase for it is founded upon a safe, substantial basis and because of its owner's broad experience and keen discernment.

E. O. Biglow, the junior partner, is an only child. He acquired a good preliminary education and then attended Baldwin College at Berea, Ohio, after which he joined his father in business. He is energetic, wide-a-woke, alert and enterprising and both he and his father, are popular with their employes, of whom their treatment is ever just and fair.

E. O. Biglow was married in 1899, to Miss Ida King, a daughter of Dr. King, of New London. They have three children, Irena, Ernestine and James Otis.

E. O. Biglow is a thirty-second degree Mason, having thus attained high rank in the Scottish Rite. While devoting their energies largely to their business interests, which are continually growing in volume and importance, the Biglows, father and son, take an active part in public affairs and have always given earnest support to those independent office seekers whose course seems to promise loyal and valuable service rather than strict party allegiance. They are men of high ideals in relation to public life and also in their business connections. They have never regarded their employes as a part of a system of machinery or business, but have looked upon them as individuals whose co-operations, assistance and good will can be won and maintained through just treatment and appreciation of reliable service. All who know of their business prophesy for it a successful future and prosperity is well deserved by them for both, father and son are genial, unassuming men of true worth and with good business ability.

THE W. H. GARDNER GRAIN & MILL COMPANY.

The W. H. Gardner Grain & Mill Company, of Bellevue, Ohio, is an enterprising concern that has put three brands of flour upon the market: Roller King, patented; Electric Light, a straight flour; and White Rose, which is a first clear. W. H. Houle is the president of this concern; W. H. Gardner the vice-president and general manager; and E. F. Lienhard, the secretary and treasurer. These men, with the addition of George Busch and D. Calhoun, also constitute the board of directors. The mill which they started and maintain has a capacity of three hundred barrels daily and employs a force of twenty-five hands. Since its organization the company has made good its claim to existence, and gives promise of continuing success in the future.

W. H. Gardner, the general manager, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 22, 1850, a son of Joseph and Sarah (Slanker) Gardner. His father was born in 1826 and died in 1854. He was a carpenter by trade and was the father of three children: one who died in infancy; C. D., of Canton, Ohio; and W. H. The mother, who was born three years after her husband, is still living at the advanced age of eighty. W. H. Gardner lived in Wayne county until 1869, attending the public schools there and learning the milling business. At the age of seventeen he had his first experience as a miller, when he was put in charge of

a small mill at Burton City, Wayne county. From there he went, in 1869, to Olney, Illinois, where he was connected with the mill business. A year sufficed to prove to him that Wayne county, Ohio, was more to his liking, so he returned to Wooster, where he worked in the Brick Mill. In the spring of 1875 he went to Pittsburg, where he continued at his trade. After two years, he came to Bellevue, where he was in the employ of Higby & Company, until his marriage in 1889, when he located on his father-in-law's farm in Seneca county, Ohio. For four years he lived there, following farming, after which he returned to Bellevue and bought a fourth interest in the mill with which he is still connected, paying thirty-five hundred dollars for his share. This was on the 7th of January, 1890, and his partners were William McLaughlin, W. H. Kern and W. P. Collins. The undertaking did not win its expected success, and Mr. Gardner, realizing that he had lost five thousand dollars in one year severed his connection with the company, in November, 1891. Thereupon he entered in the grain business with W. H. Kern on the Wheeling railroad, under the firm name of Kern & Gardner, conducting their operations from the cars. Later on they built an elevator on the railroad and leased another at Parkertown. As the business prospered they built one at Flat Rock and another at Omar, south of Bellevue. In 1897 Mr. Gardner purchased Mr. Kern's interest and sold a quarter interest in the business to Mrs. Addie S. Heimbach and another quarter to E. F. Lienhard. The firm then became known as W. H. Gardner & Company. In March, 1904, a stock company was formed and incorporated under the laws of Ohio as the W. H. Gardner Grain Company, with a capital stock of seventy-five thousand dollars. In June, 1904, the corporation bought out the Bellevue Grain Company which owned elevators at Bellevue and Colby. In April, 1905, the company obtained possession of the McLaughlin & Biebuiher elevator at Franks, at the same time increasing their capital stock to one hundred thousand dollars and changing the style of the corporation to The W. H. Gardner Grain & Mill Company. In June, 1909, they leased the mills at Norwalk, known as the Globe Mills, which they are rebuilding and installing with the latest and best machinery, the demand for Roller King flour being so great that it was necessary to increase the facilities to take care of the demand. Mr. Gardner is a man of pronounced business ability and the success of the firm is due in no small measure to his efforts. On the 24th of February, 1880, he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Alice Currin, a daughter of George and Harriet Currin, and they have become the parents of one daughter, E. Gertrude, who was born December 26, 1883.

Emil F. Lienhard, the secretary and treasurer of the company, was born in Zurich, Switzerland, January 16, 1862, a son of Heinrich and Rosina Lienhard. The father was born in 1832 and died in his forty-first year but the mother, on the other hand, is still living at the advanced age of eighty-eight. There were five children born to this couple: Rosina; Louisa, deceased; Heinrich; Emil F.; and Carl, who died in 1873—the year of his father's death. Emil F. Lienhard attended the schools of Switzerland and after completing his education traveled throughout the principal countries of Europe. At the age of twenty he came to the United States, desiring to enter the regular army, but as he was unable at that time to speak English he was refused. His purpose was not changed, however, and after spending a year in working in Philadelphia, he acquired the requisite knowledge

of the language and in 1882 was enlisted as a soldier. At a large number of western posts he served with honor, and on August 21, 1893, was discharged. During the World's Fair at Chicago, he was employed as correspondent and in the secret service with the Columbian Guards. When the Fair closed he came to Wayne county, Ohio, where he lived with his wife's parents. On the 16th of October, 1894, he came to Bellevue, entering the employ of Kern & Gardner. His services proved of such worth that when the present company was organized he was asked to assume the duties of secretary and treasurer. On the 1st of September, 1893, Mr. Lienhard was united in marriage to Miss Alta A. Smith, a daughter of Nathan W. and Rebecca Smith, of Wayne county. One child, Grace R., has been born to them. Fraternally Mr. Lienhard has relations with the Masons. He is also a member of the German Aid Society and belongs to the Association of Cleveland Commercial Travelers. In religious matters he gives his adherence to the Lutheran church and is both a good churchman and a Christian. In the company of which he is secretary and treasurer he is also a stockholder, and his counsel, that of a responsible man of business, is always asked in matters of importance affecting the welfare of the company.

STEPHEN M. YOUNG.

Stephen M. Young, a representative of the Norwalk bar since 1878, has displayed in his practice in the courts an ability which has gained him a large clientage and connected him with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of the district. With a keenly analytical mind and laudable ambition to attain success, he has worked diligently and persistently for the enviable position which he now occupies.

A native of Mansfield, Ohio, he was born March 27, 1848, and is a son of Downing H. and Angeline (Marvin) Young. On the paternal side he comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry, while in the maternal line he is of French and Holland Dutch ancestry. His mother was a lady of notable refinement and liberal education. The father, Downing H. Young, was a native of Virginia, and removing westward to Richland county, Ohio, there met and married his wife. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in Mansfield, practiced there until 1857, when he removed to Toledo, where he continued successfully in the practice of law for about four years. He next came to Huron county and for forty-five years was one of the honored representatives of the bar of Norwalk and county. In his family were eleven children, of whom Stephen M. was the eighth in order of birth. Four sons of the family were soldiers in the Federal army in the Civil war and A. J. Young died at Danville, Kentucky, while defending the interests of the Union. Another brother, Henry, was mortally wounded at Stone River, Tennessee, December 31, 1862, and died on the 3d of January, 1863. Samuel Young served throughout the entire war uninjured but died in 1868, from disease contracted in the service and Howard Young was also at the front through the period of hostilities and was never wounded. Daniel and George Marvin, uncles of our subject, in the maternal line, were also enlisted soldiers of the Union army and

were wounded, while J. B. Howard, the husband of his sister, died in Andersonville prison.

When a mere boy Stephen M. Young went to Toledo, Ohio, where he remained until 1860 and then became a resident of New Haven, Huron county. His education was acquired in the schools of Mansfield, Toledo and New Haven prior to entering Oberlin College, where he obtained his more specifically literary education. In 1867 he engaged in teaching school in Crawford county, Ohio, and subsequently became assistant in the public schools of Cincinnati, but on account of his health he abandoned that profession and turned his attention to insurance, representing the Merchants Insurance Company of Chicago at Shelby, Ohio. Later he was with the Underwriters Association of Philadelphia. All this time he devoted every possible moment to the study of law and after mastering many of the principles of jurisprudence was admitted to the bar at Columbus in 1873. He first located for practice in Plymouth, Richland county, but after a brief period there passed removed to Bucyrus, Ohio, where he commenced practice in May, 1875. In October, 1878, he came to Norwalk and has since been numbered among the leading representatives of the Huron county bar. His practice is extensive and of an important character. He is remarkable among lawyers for the wide research and provident care with which he prepares his cases. At no time has his reading ever been confined to the limitations of the questions at issue. It has gone beyond and compassed every contingency and his legal learning, analytical mind, and the readiness with which he grasps the points in an argument, all combine to make him one of the leading lawyers of the Huron county bar.

On the 29th of July, 1877, Mr. Young was married to Miss Isabella Wagner, and unto them have been born five children, Walburga, Henry, Don John, Stephen Marvin, Jr., and Isabella Wagner.

In his political views Mr. Young is independent formerly affiliated with the republicans but now with the democratic party. He is conversant with the leading questions and issues of the day but without political aspiration for himself. His fraternal relations are with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. Without invidious distinction he may be termed one of the foremost men of Norwalk, standing for all that is progressive in citizenship and commendable in public and private life. A man of forceful character, he has left and is leaving the impress of his individuality upon the community.

FRANK CAMPBELL.

Frank Campbell is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Huron county, where he has spent his entire life, so that he has witnessed much of the growth and development of this section of the state. His memory goes back to the time when all of the evidences of frontier life were here found; when the prairies were wild and uncultivated; when the forests were uncut; the streams unbridged; and when deer and other wild animals roamed over the countryside.

He is now the owner of a highly improved and valuable tract of land of two hundred and seventy-six acres in Greenfield township, where he has made his home from his birth to the present time. He was born in one of the log cabins characteristic of those early times, his natal day being February 6, 1835. His parents were Lorenzo Q. and Betsy (Mather) Campbell, the former a native of Genoa, Cayuga county, New York, while the latter's birth occurred in Greenfield township, this county. About the year 1826, Hugh Argyle and Margaret (Mather) Campbell, the paternal grandparents, took up their abode in a log house on the farm where our subject now resides. The grandfather was named in honor of the Duke of Argyle of Scotland. On his arrival in this county, he purchased a farm of two hundred acres and, as only a half acre of the entire tract had been cleared, he set himself resolutely to the task of cutting down the trees and preparing the land for cultivation. He underwent many of the hardships and privations incident to the life of the early settler. There were no roads and he often went through the woods on horseback to Monroeville, following the blazed trail. After a time, his little cabin home was replaced by a substantial frame residence, which he erected. He served as deacon in the Presbyterian church at Steuben, Ohio, which he had assisted in erecting and of which he was a valued and prominent member. His demise occurred in 1854 and the county thus lost one of its most respected and worthy pioneer settlers, whose labors had contributed in substantial measure to the early development and upbuilding of this section of the state.

Lorenzo Q. Campbell, the father of Frank Campbell, was born in 1817 and was therefore a little lad of nine years, when he came to Huron county with his parents. The remainder of his life was spent in Greenfield township, this county, and he devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, in which he met with a most gratifying and creditable measure of success. He extended the boundaries of the home farm by additional purchase until it embraced two hundred and seventy-six acres of land and in 1861, built the commodious and attractive brick residence in which his son Frank now resides. He was highly esteemed throughout the community and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to various positions of public trust. He was a republican in his political views and held all of the township offices, including those of constable and justice of the peace. His death, which occurred in 1894, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of warm friends in this county during the long years of his residence here. His wife, who passed away when her son Frank was but two years of age, was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Mather, likewise early settlers of this county. Both lie buried in the cemetery at Steuben. Mr. Campbell of this review had but one sister, Sitire, who is now deceased. She was twice married and both her husbands, John H. Easter and Jesse Snyder, have also passed away.

Frank Campbell began his education in a little log schoolhouse, later attended the district school, afterward further supplemented his education by a course in the Normal school at Milan and then for two terms pursued his studies in Hillsdale College at Hillsdale, Michigan. On putting aside his text-books, he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, with which line of activity he has been identified to the present time. He owns the old homestead farm which his

grandfather purchased on his arrival in this county and which has now been in possession of the family for eighty-three years, and as the years have gone by he has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and improvements, annually gathering golden harvests which find a ready sale on the market.

On the 26th of September, 1860, Mr. Campbell was united in marriage to Miss Martha J. Shourds, a daughter of Daniel and Mehitabel (Sears) Shourds, who made their way from the state of New York to Greenfield township, this county, when Mrs. Campbell was a little maiden of seven years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shourds passed away in Greenfield township. They reared a family of eight children, namely: E. H. and Chester, both of whom are now deceased; Charlotte; John G., Ruth and Joseph, who have likewise been called to their final rest; Jessie; and Mrs. Campbell. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, was born a daughter, Dell, who is now the wife of R. B. Fisher, an attorney of Sandusky, Ohio.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Campbell has given his political allegiance to the republican party and is now serving for the second term as justice of the peace in Greenfield township, while for four years, he acted as constable and has also been a member of the school board. He is a prominent member of the Congregational church at Steuben and has served in various official capacities therein. Throughout his entire life, or for almost three-fourths of a century, he has made his home in Huron county and therefore few men have more intimate knowledge of its history or of events which have left their impress upon its annals. He is one of the best known and most highly respected citizens in the community and, by reason of his upright and honorable life, well merits the kindly regard and esteem which are uniformly accorded him.

HUSTED EUGENE REED.

Husted Eugene Reed is engaged in the poultry business on a farm of seventeen acres, located in Fairfield township, Huron county, and in this connection has become well known in this section of the state. He is a native son of this township, born September 2, 1846, of the marriage of Shadrock Hoyt and Sally (Roscoe) Reed, the former born in Connecticut, November 19, 1809, and the latter in White Plains, New York, October 10, 1811. Their family numbered four sons and one daughter, namely: David H., Clarissa, Charles E., Aranson S. and Husted E.

The last named was reared under the parental roof until he attained mature years and at the age of twenty-four years established a home of his own by his marriage in 1870 to Miss Ella Holloway, who was born January 29, 1849, a daughter of F. M. and Sibyl (Bassett) Holloway, natives of New York, but later they became residents of Hillsdale county, Michigan. Mr. Holloway became a very prominent man in political circles and for many years filled positions of trust and responsibility, while in 1880 he was candidate for governor on the democratic ticket. Mr. and Mrs. Holloway had four children, George A., Leroy F., Cyrus C. and Mrs. Reed.

Following his marriage Mr. Reed settled in Hillsdale, Michigan, where he engaged in farming and in teaching, following the latter profession for about

ten years, part of the time being spent in Ohio. In 1877 he returned to Huron, his native county, and with the exception of two years spent in the city of Cleveland, has resided in the county to the present time, while since 1897 he has made his home in Fairfield township. For the past five years he has been engaged in the poultry business, owning a farm of seventeen acres, which he devotes to those interests. He makes a specialty of Barred Rock chickens and finds a ready sale on the market, where he demands good prices for the products of his farm.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reed have been born three sons and three daughters: Jennie H.; Clara, the wife of George Page; Sibyl, the wife of Paul R. Lehmann; Ralph, who wedded Mabel Rice; Fred, who is in the service of the navy; and Kent, who has departed this life.

Mr. Reed has served as township trustee and as a member of the school board and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Disciples church. He is a public-spirited citizen whom the people of Huron county look upon as an exemplary man and they are proud to call him their own.

GEORGE W. RITZ.

George W. Ritz is the owner of one hundred acres of very valuable farming land in Richmond township and his wife owns fifty acres more in the same township, where they make their home. Mr. Ritz was born in Erie county, Ohio, September 29, 1847, being a son of Fred William and Anna Catherine (Friermuth) Ritz, who belong to that class of worthy citizens that Germany has furnished the United States that are welcomed everywhere on account of their sterling traits of character. They were born in Germany, and Fred William Ritz was twenty-one when he came to the new world, while his wife was but six years old. The father escaped service in the army in his native land, not drawing a fatal number, and so he emigrated. Upon coming here, he located in Huron county, Ohio, and for the remainder of his life was a farmer, although he was a weaver by trade. The children born to him and his wife were as follows: George W., the eldest; Catherine, who married George Litts and lives in Norwich township; Mary, the widow of William Resh and a resident of Chicago, Ohio; Caroline, who married Morgan Clark and lives at Attica, Ohio; John and Elizabeth, who were twins. Elizabeth married George Wolfe, and they live in Richmond township.

Until he was seventeen years old, George W. Ritz attended the district schools of his neighborhood, and then began farming and has been engaged in that work ever since. He has lived in Huron county from the age of three years old, and remembers distinctly when the farm was all timber land, and he helped his father clear it off. Mr. Ritz was married December 31, 1871, to Mary Ann Resh, a daughter of Henry and Mary Resh. She had a brother Henry, and a sister Catherine, who married Wesley Sparks. By this marriage, Mr. Ritz had the following children: William H., who is the present township clerk of Richmond township; Carrie E., who married Perl Wurtz and lives in Norwich township; George Edward; John; Albert; and Gustavus. The wife and mother died in 1882.

On July 6, 1884, Mr. Ritz married Johannah Kleinknecht, a daughter of Jacob and Mary Kleinknecht, natives of Peru township, who had a family as follows: Carrie, who married Abraham Stahl and lives in New Haven township; Louise Barbara, who is deceased; Elmer; Greves; John; Frank; Wilhelmina; William, who is deceased; and Amelia. The children born of the second marriage of George W. Ritz are: Charles, Jacob, Louise, Amelia, Walter and Fred.

Mr. Ritz has served as road supervisor and as school director, being elected on the democratic ticket. He and his wife belong to the Lutheran church and are interested in its good work. He is a man of considerable energy and has inherited from his German parents those habits of industry, thrift and economy which make for success.

JAY WASHBURN.

Jay Washburn, one of the leading farmers of Greenwich township, was born April 14, 1852, on the old homestead where he now resides, being a son of Henry G. and Ann Maria (Van Benschoten) Washburn, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of his brother, Daniel S. Washburn. Our subject acquired his early education in the district schools of Greenwich township and later attended the normal at Milan, Ohio. He grew to manhood upon his father's farm, early becoming familiar with the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, assisting in the general farm work and also in the care of the extensive stock which his father raised.

On the 21st of June, 1873, Mr. Washburn was united in marriage to Miss Mary Brady, a daughter of David and Pamela (Franklin) Brady, who were formerly from New York and came to Ohio in 1849. Although Mr. Brady followed farming in this state he had studied dentistry in his younger years and for many years practiced that profession to some extent in his own neighborhood. He was also an ingenious mechanic along many lines. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Washburn were born five children, two of whom died in infancy, the others being: Howard, Myrtle and Etta. The daughters are still at home but the son was married September 9, 1905, to Miss Bertha Sutliff, of Greenwich township, by whom he has two children, Walter J. H. and Grace. Howard Washburn is now engaged in farming on the home place and is a natural mechanic of considerable ability.

After his marriage Mr. Washburn located in Fitchville township, where he engaged in general farming and in the raising of fine stock. But in 1885 he removed to the old Washburn homestead in Greenwich township, where he has since resided, devoting special attention to the raising of thoroughbred cattle, both of the Hereford and Durham breeds, which command the highest price. The farm is one of the finest in the county, being well improved, fenced and tile drained, and supplied with good, substantial buildings. The land is under a high state of cultivation and produces excellent crops. For two years Mr. Washburn devoted considerable attention to the buying of wool, and being a good judge of that article, met with success in the undertaking.



JAY WASHBURN AND FAMILY

In his political views Mr. Washburn is a republican and a most ardent supporter of the principles of that party. In the early days of the Patrons of Husbandry he became a charter member of that organization and was an active worker in the first grange ever established in Fitchville township, where he then made his home. At all times deeply interested in public affairs, his influence is exerted for good and he is recognized as one of the valued citizens of his community. For the past few years he has been living practically retired, while his son Howard carries on the work of the farm and is proving an excellent and worthy successor of his father. Method is apparent in the conduct of this farm, all fields being platted and arranged so that the best results may be obtained from the labor expended. Closely adhering to a systematic rule of crop rotation, a close study is made of the adaptability of certain crops to certain soils. The stables and barns are all arranged with a view to convenience and are supplied with water. On this model, well kept farm there is a place for everything and everything is in its place, and a view of it is in itself a lesson in thrift, perseverance and industry.

HARMON VON SEGGERN.

Harmon Von Seggern, an up-to-date and progressive farmer and stock-raiser of Ripley township, Huron county, is a native of Germany, his birth there occurring on the 19th of January, 1861. He is a son of Dedrick and Mattie (Gold) Von Seggern, and a brother of Henry, Fred, Dedrick and Riche Von Seggern. He belongs to a family that, like many another that has come from across the water, sought the opportunities of the new world that advancement might be made in business lines and better advantages given to the members of the household.

Harmon Von Seggern was a little lad of seven years when his parents made the voyage across the Atlantic and settled in Ohio, so that to the district school system of this state he is indebted for the educational advantages which he enjoyed. The time not devoted to his text-books was given to assisting in the work of the fields, and under the direction of his father, he early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits and his labors have been practical and therefore productive of good results. He is the owner of one hundred acres of farm land, the soil of which is very rich and fertile, responding to cultivation in abundant harvests. He also devotes considerable time to stock-raising interests, making a specialty of breeding horses, and both branches of his business are sources of gratifying remuneration.

It was on the 14th of December, 1883, that Mr. Von Seggern was united in marriage to Miss Anna Shepard, who was born in Henry county in 1858. A daughter of D. L. and Maria (Hockman) Shepard, she is one of a family of nine children, the others being Jacob, Freeman, Marion, Austin, Edward, Elizabeth, Flora and Hulda. The grandfather of Mrs. Von Seggern on the paternal side was Martin Shepard, while her mother was a daughter of Joseph Hockman. As the years have gone by, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Von Seggern has been blessed

with eight children, namely: William, Hulda, Jacob, Austin, Bessie, May, Daniel and Grace. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Von Seggern has given his allegiance to the democracy, and although born across the waters, he has always been loyal to the interests of his adopted country, doing all in his power to further the growth and development of the community in which he resides. Although he has occupied his present farm for only six years, he has nevertheless acquired many warm friends who entertain for him high regard and esteem.

LAWRENCE ZIMERMAN.

Lawrence Zimmerman is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to Huron county. He owns and operates fifty-three acres of land in Sherman township and although he was formerly engaged in carpentering in 1903 he purchased this farm on which he located and is now leading the quiet life of a farmer. Mr. Zimmerman as above stated, was born in Germany, his natal day being March 2, and the year 1853. His parents, Christopher and Elizabeth Zimmerman both died in Germany, when our subject was a little lad of nine years. They had a family of ten children: Elizabeth, who is in Australia; Rosina and Barbara, who still make their home in the fatherland; Christopher, who lives in Iowa; Magdelina, who resides in Germany; George, who died in New York; Lorenz, of this review; and three who died in infancy.

Lorenz Zimmerman, following the demise of his parents, made his home with friends in his native land. He acquired his education in the schools of that country and in early life learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years. He also did service in the German army. It was while still a resident of Germany that he was married in Monheim, June 24, 1878, the lady of his choice being Elizabeth Goelz a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Goelz.

It was in the year 1881, that, foreseeing no future in the old world, and having heard and read a great deal about the freedom and opportunity for advancement in this country, Mr. Zimmerman decided to emigrate with his wife to the United States. He had a sister, Mrs. George Hoener, living in Sherman township, Huron county, and he at once made his way to her home. He here resumed work at his trade and was connected with building operations until 1903. In the meantime, he had carefully saved his earnings, so that he was justified in that year in making a purchase of land and accordingly became the owner of the tract of fifty-three acres on which he now makes his home. There were no improvements on the place when it came into his possession, but he erected a comfortable residence, a good barn and made other substantial improvements and now has a neat and well kept farm. He has now settled down to a quiet life on the farm, having abandoned his work at the carpenter's trade, and is meeting with success in his farming operations.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman have been born seven children, four sons and three daughters, namely: Henry, who wedded Nora Hammersmith, their home being near Bellevue and their family numbering one son, Carl; Anna, the wife of Ed Hammersmith, who lives in Monroeville and who is the mother of three

children: Alfred, Magdeline and Marian; Peter, who wedded Miss Elizabeth Linder, by whom he has one daughter, Helen, and makes his home near Norwalk; and John, Martin, Philomena and Celia, still under the parental roof.

Mr. Zimmerman gives his political support to the democratic party and has served as a member of the school board, but otherwise has filled no public office. He is a communicant of the Catholic church at Bismarck. Mr. Zimmerman is well pleased with the progress he has made since coming to the new world and fully realizes the superior business opportunities here as compared with those in the old country. He possesses the German characteristics of honesty, industry and perseverance and today stand among the substantial German-American citizens of Huron county and Sherman township.

COLONEL E. TEMPLER.

One of the farmers of Huron county who has made a success of life is Colonel E. Templer of Greenwich township. He is a native of Michigan, his parents, Jonathan and Ann (Darrow) Templer, having come to Huron county in 1848, and after a short stay removed to Ingham county, Michigan, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Jonathan Templer was a carpenter by trade and a man of fine public spirit, judged by the fact that four of his sons enlisted in the Union army for the defense of Old Glory. He died in 1865, and his widow surviving many years, died in March, 1888. Their family of ten children were as follows: James, William, Mary, Nicholas, Diadama, Edgar, Fremont, Charles, Frank and Colonel E. Of these four did valiant service for the flag: Nicholas, who was wounded in battle and now resides at Mason, Michigan; William and Edgar, who died of illness contracted in service; James, who survived the war and died at his home in Bay City, Michigan, in February, 1909, aged seventy years. The living members of the family are: Mary, wife of Solon D. Neely, of Mason, Michigan, who also was a soldier and wounded; Nicholas, also a resident of Mason, Michigan; Diadama, now Mrs. N. W. Odell, of Olena, Ohio; Fremont, of South Dakota; and Charles, of Fitzville, Ohio.

Colonel E. Templer was born in Ingham county, Michigan, March 23, 1862. Well educated in the public schools of Norwalk, he completed his scholastic training at the Mason high school. He then took up the profession of teaching and for twenty years was known as one of the leading educators of Huron county, being for seven consecutive years at Olena. Later he took up farming and has for years been one of the prominent agriculturists of the county. His farm of one hundred acres is devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Colonel E. Templer was joined in marriage January 1, 1884, to Miss Lura Burgess, a daughter of Egbert and Elizabeth (Strimple) Burgess, another of the worthy families of Huron county. The father was also a soldier of the Civil war and gave his life for the cause he loved. Mrs. Templer was the only child, and the mother still survives, living with her daughter. Four children constitute the family of Mr. and Mrs. Templer, all of whom bid fair to make a success in life. Merle C. was given a good education and is now superintendent of the

Central high school of Ruggles, Ashland county, Ohio. Charles is a student at Savannah Academy, while Kenneth and Mildred are still under the home roof.

Colonel Templer is a man of standing and influence in his home community and takes an active interests in its affairs. Township trustee for ten years, a number of years on the local schoolboard, and now a member of the board of education, he has strengthened the schools of the township by his experimental knowledge of the work to be done therein. He is an Odd Fellow, belonging to Greenwich Lodge, No. 640, and a member of the Maccabees. He and his family are working Methodists, being a trustee of the church and a teacher in the Sunday school, of which he was superintendent for many years. Politics interest him only so far as casting an intelligent vote for republican candidates. The head of a refined home emanating a beneficent influence throughout the community, and a citizen whose ideals are all on an elevated plane, Colonel Templer is making a thorough success in life.

FRANK M. ARNOLD.

One of the many farmers of Ohio who have studied their acres and applied their own theories to agriculture and stock raising in general and have made a success is Frank M. Arnold, of Wakeman township. On May 20, 1853, he was born in Bristol township, Trumbull county, Ohio, a son of Samuel D. and Catherine (Kinnaman) Arnold, who came to Huron county in 1857, settling on a farm in Clarksfield township. After a long and busy life, the father passed away in 1903, but the mother is still living.

Frank M. Arnold received his education in the district schools of Clarksfield township and learned the practical work of the farm under his father's efficient guidance. He married, March 15, 1876, Miss Mary C. Hand, the daughter of John G. and Clarissa (Fletcher) Hand. Her father was a farmer in Wakeman township, owning the farm where the Arnolds now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have two children: Ethel M., and Frank Merwil, both single and at home.

After marriage, Mr. Arnold turned his attention to farming, locating in Clarksfield township, where he remained twenty-two years. In 1898, he came to Wakeman township, and, as above stated, located on the J. G. Hand place. Mr. Arnold studies his land and crop rotation, in a manner which never fails to bring forth fruit under his careful tilling, and he also engages in the breeding of fine "general purpose" horses and thoroughbred Chester White hogs, selling only for breeding purposes. His stock has come to such a high standard that he has quite a large custom.

That our subject is well known as a public spirited, honest citizen is shown by his election to the offices of road supervisor and school director, both needing skill and tact in their handling. He always votes to keep the republicans uppermost and has never missed an election day, at the same time keeping up an active interest in local issues and stands for continued and substantial advancement in the community's affairs. He and his family are members of the Methodist church and unfailing in their attendance.

Mrs. Arnold believes in centering her first energies on the home, as her great interest in domestic and educational matters shows. She finds some time, however, to look about in a social way, and is highly esteemed by a large circle of close friends for her intelligence and refinement. The house, in which she is the moving power, is one of the few brick farm residences in Wakeman township. Its modern external architecture and convenient interior is in sharp contrast to her nearby girlhood home, built of logs in the usual old style way by her father when he came to this district. The present home, situated in the midst of grounds, which, like many other Wakeman township yards, knows as much of the lawnmower's ravages as the average suburban lawn, radiates hospitality and cheerfulness throughout the county.

WILLIAM A. ROSE.

There are few men who occupy a higher rank among the citizens of Hartland township or who merit in greater degree the respect, esteem and confidence of their fellowmen, than does William A. Rose, whose high standing as a citizen has led to his appointment to various positions of responsibility and trust. A native of Ohio, he was born in Muskingum county on the 27th of February, 1857, a son of Alfred and Martha (Blaine) Rose, natives of New Jersey and Muskingum county, respectively. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Rose, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, while the maternal grandfather, Joseph Blaine, fought in the War of 1812. Both families were numbered among the early pioneer settlers of Ohio and were active in the affairs of the communities in which they resided. The father, Alfred Rose, was a carpenter by trade but took up the occupation of farming after his marriage. He passed away February 5, 1873, while his wife survived until July 18, 1904, their remains being laid to rest in Woodland cemetery at Norwalk. In their family were three children, as follows: William A., of this review; Mary A., the wife of Charles Dipple of Townsend township; and John J., also residing in Townsend township.

Amid the scenes and environments of rural life, William A. Rose spent the years of his boyhood and youth, and attended the public schools and later the Lebanon Normal College in the pursuit of his education. When not busy with his text-books, he assisted his father about the farm, early becoming familiar with the various tasks that fall to the lot of the farmer. He remained at home until after his marriage, when he purchased his present place which consists of one hundred and seventy acres of splendid farming land in Hartland township. He carries on general farming pursuits and has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, annually reaping rich harvests therefrom, while he also devotes considerable time to his stock interests, making a specialty of breeding thoroughbred Oxford Down sheep. He is a large breeder of this animal and exhibits extensively at various state and county fairs. Upon his farm stand substantial and commodious buildings and he has introduced all of the modern equipments and accessories which go to make up a model farm. He is a man who thoroughly understands his business, is intelligent, progressive and up-to-date

in the methods which he pursues, and by the exercise of his salient characteristics—industry, energy and perseverance—he is meeting with substantial success, ranking foremost among the prosperous and affluent farmers of the township.

On the 16th of October, 1889, Mr. Rose was united in marriage to Miss Luella Miles, a daughter of Sylvester and Almira (Sherman) Miles, both of whom are representatives of old and well known pioneer families. Mr. and Mrs. Rose both attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which they have at all times been liberal supporters.

Fraternally, Mr. Rose is a Mason, holding membership in East Townsend Lodge, No. 322, F. & A. M., and he is now master of the lodge and has filled all of the offices. He likewise belongs to Townsend Grange, No. 1392, Patrons of Husbandry, and has always been an active member of the grange, now serving as steward of the lodge. He has been a very prominent figure in local political circles, having at all times given stalwart support to the democracy, and he has ever kept well informed upon all current matters and his high standing in the community as a citizen led to his appointment by the county court as a member of the Huron county jury commission. Mr. Rose has likewise served on the democratic county committee for years and almost invariably is sent as a delegate to the county conventions. He has also been elected to various offices in the township, having been chosen in 1890 real estate appraiser for Townsend township. He is a member of the school board, the cause of education finding in him a warm champion. He is pre-eminently a man of affairs who is ever ready to lend his assistance to all matters which have for their object the material, political, intellectual and moral upbuilding and progress of the community, while his many excellent personal traits have gained for him a high place in the front ranks of Huron county's representative and valued citizens. He is an extensive reader, keeping in close touch with all of the topics of the day, while his wife is a lady of fine attainments who, having received her educational training in the Milan private school, was for some years prior to her marriage a very successful and progressive teacher. Both are people of true worth of character, prominent and influential in the community in which they reside, where they are well known for their charity and many good deeds.

JOHN J. McMANN.

John J. McMann needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume for he is well known in business and political circles of this community, his activity in the latter leading to his selection for positions of public trusts. A native of New York, he was born in Dutchess county, that state, October 13, 1855, a son of Jerre and Julia (Lown) McMann. The father, a native of Ireland, left his home at the age of twelve years and from that time was dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood. He experienced many hardships and privations during the early period of his career, but never permitted himself to be overcome by any obstacles. By untiring perseverance and unfaltering industry, he learned the coopers trade and gradually worked his way upward until he became a large opera-

tor in his line of activity. In 1864, he arrived in Chicago, where he engaged in his trade until 1871, when he came to Wakeman, where he spent the remaining days of his life. He operated a large cooperage in this city and became very prosperous in his business enterprise. A man of great force of character, he possessed a strong personality, and was known throughout the community for his charitable and humanitarian traits. A man who acquired money easily, he gave liberally of his means to the poor and needy and no worthy person in distress ever sought his aid in vain, so that when he passed away on the 30th of September, 1898, his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. He was laid to rest in the Wakeman cemetery, while his wife still survives him. Their family consisted of five children, namely: John J., Jerre H., Richard, Margaret and William.

A worthy successor of an honored father, John J. McMann acquired his education in the schools of New York, Chicago and Wakeman, and early became associated with his father in the mill business, taking complete charge of the mill after the demise of the latter. It is true that he became interested in a business already established, but in the controlling and enlarging of this enterprise, he has demonstrated the truth of the saying that success is not the result of genius, but the outcome of a clear judgment and experience. Some years prior to the death of his father, the supply of available timber for cooperage purposes became depleted and the mill was converted into a bent wood and general sawmill, which John J. McMann has since continued to operate. He has extended his interests to include the lumber and contracting business and his capable control of his combined enterprises is bringing to him a marked degree of success. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the substantial prosperity which is today his.

Not only in business circles, however, has Mr. McMann figured prominently in the affairs of Wakeman, but he is equally well known in political circles and is deeply and helpfully interested in all public matters. He is a stalwart democrat and during the two terms of President Cleveland, served as postmaster of Wakeman. His election to this office came to him through no solicitation on his part, but as the expression of the appreciation of his sterling qualities and high standing in the community on the part of his fellowmen. He also served as township clerk for several terms and proved an excellent official in both capacities. Something of his personal popularity and his high standing among all classes in this community is indicated in the fact that in 1908 he was nominated for county treasurer in a county that was strongly republican and in spite of that fact that the republican majority ran from eight to eighteen hundred, Mr. McMann was elected by a majority of four hundred and eighteen votes over his opponent.

Mr. McMann was united in marriage on the 17th of October, 1878, to Miss Ella J. Harris, a daughter of Andrew and Rebecca (Harrison) Harris. The father was engaged in the mercantile business in this city for many years and still survives at the venerable age of eighty-four years, his mind remaining as clear and his interests in public affairs as keen as in former years. His wife, however, passed away January 10, 1899. The home of Mr. and Mrs. McMann

has been blessed with one son, Clifford H., who is associated with his father in business, while they also lost a child who died in infancy.

Mr. McMann is a member of Gibson Lodge, No. 301, F. & A. M., and also holds membership with the Royal Arch Masons, and has filled all of the offices of the organization. He likewise belongs to the Lumbermen's Association of the Hoo-Hoos. Public-spirited to a marked degree, he is a stalwart advocate of public improvements along all lines, believing that therein lies the secret of the future growth and development of the community. He is fond of outdoor sports and seeks recreation and relaxation from business cares in occasional hunting and fishing trips. Giving due attention to the varied interests which develop a well rounded character, he belongs to that useful and helpful type of men whose ambitions and desires are centered and directed in those channels through which flow the greatest and most permanent good to the greatest number.

FRANK C. HERSHISER.

Industry, thrift and perseverance when combined will result in success in almost every line of business, and especially is this true in farming, for the soil responds to work put upon it in good crops that insure a steady income. Many of the most sensible and substantial men of Huron county, Ohio, are engaged in agricultural pursuits, and among them is Frank C. Hershiser, who resides upon his fertile farm of one hundred and four acres, while his son and he own another tract of one hundred and four acres adjoining the homestead on the west.

Mr. Hershiser was born in Caroline City, Seneca county, Ohio, December 19, 1854, and is a son of Peter M. and Catherine (Person) Hershiser. Peter M. Hershiser came to Seneca county from Pennsylvania in 1836, while his wife who was born in Keystone state was brought to Ohio by her parents when a little girl. Both a miller and carpenter, he worked at those trades, but for the last thirty years of his life he was engaged in farming, and in 1864 he bought fifty acres of land which is a portion of the present farm of Frank C. Hershiser. When his country had need of his services, he responded by enlisting in Company H, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry under General Thomas and served during the last year of the conflict. His only injury during this time was the loss of the end of one finger. In May, 1907, this most excellent man was called to his last reward, when he was in his eighty-second year, to join the wife who had died thirty years before, in 1877. Four children were born to them, but none survived childhood but Frank C.

While securing an excellent district-school education, Frank C. Hershiser learned the carpenter's trade from his father, and worked at it during the summer months until he was married. When he became the head of a family, he began farming and has continued to follow that occupation ever since with considerable profit. In November, 1877, Mr. Hershiser married Mary B. Miller, a daughter of Thomas and Eliza (Stone) Miller, farmers of Richmond township. Mr. Miller served in the same company during the Civil war as did Peter M. Hershiser, and he too proved himself a loyal soldier. Mr. and Mrs. Miller had three children,



PETER M. HERSHISER

of whom Mrs. Hershiser was the eldest, the others being: Samuel F., and Amanda, who became the wife of D. A. Frye and now lives in Richmond township. Mr. and Mrs. Hershiser have a family which is as follows: Edna, who married William H. Crabaugh, a young man who served in the Philippines; William T., who married Pearl Frost; Chester P.; Ralph C. and Sam P.

For four years Mr. Hershiser was township treasurer, and he has also served as road supervisor and school director, being elected on the republican ticket. In each case he discharged the duties pertaining to the office efficiently and acceptably. Fraternally he belongs to Attica Lodge, No. 197, I. O. O. F. The family are important factors in the United Brethren church, of which they are members, and in it and throughout the neighborhood generally they have many friends who esteem them and appreciate their true worth.

WILLIAM R. BELL.

Among the residents of Ripley township, who are seeking their fortunes along the line of agricultural pursuits, is William R. Bell, one of Ohio's native sons, his birth occurring in Richland county on the 24th of January, 1841. His parents were Nathaniel and Nancy A. (Reynolds) Bell, of whom the former was a minister of the Methodist church and a son of John and Hannah (Finch) Bell, who were also the parents of Robert, Jesse, John, Enoch, David, Joseph and Stephen. The mother was a daughter of William Reynolds and a sister of Rachel, Sarah, Benjamin, William, John, Shadrick and George. In the family of Nathaniel Bell and his wife were: Jesse, William, John, Harriet, Hannah and Jane.

William R. Bell was reared in Huron county and at the usual age was sent as a pupil to the district schools. He early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the country lad, for the periods of vacation were devoted to the work of the fields. After laying aside his text-books, he remained under the parental roof for a number of years, continuing to give his father the benefit of his assistance in the operation of the home farm. He had scarcely attained his majority when Civil war was declared and, responding to his country's call for troops, joined the Union army as a member of Company D, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. With this command he went to the front and saw much active service, participating in several hotly contested battles, among which were the engagements at Perryville and Lancaster. He received honorable discharge on the 13th of March, 1863.

After returning home, Mr. Bell took up the occupation of farming on his own account and has continued to direct his energies along that line to the present time. He carries on general agricultural pursuits, owning a farm of ninety-three acres in Ripley township, and every thing about his place indicates that he is in touch with the modern spirit of progress which is manifest in agricultural lines. His close application and good management have gained for him a creditable degree of success, and he ranks among the representative farmers of the community.

It was on the 11th of January, 1904, that Mr. Bell was united in marriage to Miss Cloe Jeney, a daughter of Abram and Sally (Griffin) Jeney and a sister of James, George, Warren, Charles, Cornelia and Mary Jeney. They are members of the Methodist church, in the work of which they are deeply and helpfully interested, while fraternally, Mr. Bell is connected with the Masonic body. He gives stalwart allegiance to the principles of the republican party which in his opinion are best adapted to conserve the public welfare. For a time, he served as first lieutenant in the state militia, and is a loyal, public-spirited citizen, at all times upholding those things which are matters of civic virtue and civic pride.

GEORGE E. PROSSER.

George E. Prosser, alert, energetic and enterprising, has won his success by persevering effort directed by sound and intelligent judgment. He now figures in the business circles of New London as one of the organizers and the cashier of the Savings and Loan Banking Company. He represents one of the old families of the county, his birth having occurred in New London township, January 7, 1859. His father, William S. Prosser, was a native of Yates county, New York, and in his boyhood days, removed westward to Ohio with his father, Abraham Prosser, who brought his family to the Western Reserve and purchased a large tract of land from the government at the usual price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. It was covered with a native forest growth, the trees standing in their primeval strength, but with characteristic energy he reclaimed the land from the wilderness, developed the fields, made a home and spent his remaining days there. His son, William S. Prosser, succeeded him in the ownership and in the cultivation of the farm which he continued to operate for many years, but in the evening of his life retired from active business cares and spent his remaining days in New London. A splendid citizen, ever loyal to the best interests of the community and equally faithful in friendship and all the relations of private life, he enjoyed in unqualified measures the confidence and good will of his fellowmen. He was no office seeker but a stanch republican and ever maintained a stalwart position in support of his honest convictions. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Johnson, was a native of the state of New York and during her girlhood days accompanied her parents on their removal to Hartland township, this county, when that district was still regarded as a frontier region. The family of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Prosser numbered three children, the daughter, Mary Amanda, who married Hastings H. Hart, being now deceased, while the brother of our subject is Spencer Prosser, a resident of Norwalk.

In retrospect one can see George E. Prosser as a school boy, pursuing his early education in the country schools and when he had mastered the branches of learning therein taught, he continued his studies in the normal school at Milan and in Oberlin College. He was identified with educational interests for three years as a teacher, after which he became superintendent of schools at Milan but, withdrawing from that field of labor, he concentrated his energies upon general agricultural pursuits, purchasing the J. R. Sutton farm in New London

township. This he carefully cultivated for seventeen years and still owns the property. He was systematic in its management, practiced the rotation of crops, closely studied the conditions of the soil and brought forth rich harvests of those cereals best adapted to climatic conditions here.

Mr. Prosser was called from private life to public office in 1891, when he was elected county commissioner and the trust reposed in him was well merited, his record in office being a most creditable one. In 1896, he was appointed by Governor Bushnell as a delegate to the Farmers National Congress, which met in Indianapolis, being chosen as one of the representative agriculturists of the state. He continued in the office of county commissioner until 1901, and retired from the position as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of all concerned. He helped to organize the Savings & Loan Banking Company in 1900, at which time he was elected cashier and has since continued in the position, his associate officers being: Charles McClare, president, and S. F. Blackman, vice-president. While carefully controlling his affairs, he has at the same time been more or less active in political circles and in official connections. In 1894, he was elected secretary of the state board of county commissioners and served until 1898. He has been an active republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and his advice and counsel have frequently been sought by his party. For many years, he served as treasurer of New London township.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Mr. Prosser was married on the 31st of January, 1883, to Miss Anna Truxell, a native of Peru, Ohio, and a daughter of S. S. and Catherine (McFarland) Truxell. Their three children are: Minnie Louise, the wife of A. I. Adamson; Dean T.; and Georgiana.

Mr. Prosser is an exemplary Mason, belonging to the lodge and chapter at New London and to Norwalk Commandery, K. T. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Methodist Episcopal church, and these associations are indicative of the rules which govern his conduct and the principles whereby his actions are directed. Public opinion accords him a place of prominence not only by reason of the success he has achieved, but owing also to the straightforward business methods he has followed and the public-spirited and patriotic citizenship which he has displayed in connection with all affairs of general moment.

J. A. WHEELER.

J. A. Wheeler, a retired farmer and business man of Greenfield township, makes his home in Steuben, Ohio, which was his place of birth. His paternal grandfather, Rev. John Wheeler, was one of the historical characters of Greenfield township. He was born in New York state, was ordained a minister of the Baptist church, and came to Ohio in 1819, settling in the northwest corner of Greenfield township. Those were primitive days and parishes and parishioners were few and scattered, so that the minister was often compelled to make long journeys, covering as much as three weeks on horseback, to hold religious meetings and to preach the gospel. He was very strict, especially in his observance of Sunday, and it is told that during one of his absences a large bear stole one of

his hogs, but as the day was Sunday, the sons of the family refrained from an attempt to kill the intruder, knowing that their father would care less for the loss of one of his hogs than that a gun shot had desecrated the sanctity of the Sabbath. Rev. John Wheeler was the first preacher in the Baptist church at Steuben and was all his life connected with the congregation of faithful there. He had in fact helped to build the churchly edifice in 1842, and his grandson has in his possession the record book of all the meetings and all the members from that early time to the present. Rev. John Wheeler was twice married. By his first wife he had eight children: Sylvester, John H., Benona, Aaron, Calvin, Elmira, C. B., and Bradley. All were members of the Baptist church of Steuben and all have departed this life. C. B. Wheeler served in the war of the rebellion and was quartermaster of the Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Calvin Wheeler, the father of J. A. Wheeler, was born in New York state, January 19, 1818, and was one year old when his father came to Greenfield township. Here he lived, pursuing his education in an old log school house, and engaging in farming in his early youth. He filled many of the township offices, was for a time trustee, and was a strong republican. To the Baptist denomination he gave his religious allegiance and was ever accounted one of the pillars of the church at Steuben. In February, 1842, he was married to Miss Mary Richards, who bore him twelve children: Nancy J., born January 15, 1843, died March 18, 1868, the wife of E. T. Trimner; Agnes, born March 9, 1844, married M. M. Parsons, of Shiloh, Ohio; D. M., born December 29, 1845, died March 27, 1901; B. R., was born November 20, 1847; C. J., born July 31, 1850, died February 2, 1908; C. B., was born January 3, 1852; Jesse and J. A., twins, were born January 22, 1854. The former was a prominent business man of Chicago, Ohio, and died October 2, 1909. Alice and Alfred, also twins were born January 18, 1857. Alice has been married twice, first to Henry Bronson and second to C. J. Barber, of Chicago, Ohio. By her first marriage, she had one son, Charles Richard Bronson, who was born January 8, 1886, and died January 1, 1896. Lillis, born November 14, 1861, married Dayton Green, now deceased. Linda Bell, born October 3, 1863, married E. K. McMorris. Mrs. Wheeler was born in New York state, January 27, 1821, and died March 22, 1868, leaving her husband to survive her for twenty-eight years, his death occurring May 27, 1896.

J. A. Wheeler was born in Greenfield township, January 22, 1854, and has always been a resident of this county. He attended the district schools of Greenfield and then the business colleges in Sandusky and Republic, Ohio. At first he worked for his brother D. M., in a general store at Steuben, and in 1875, went into business for himself in the same town, where he conducted a large general store and was successful in his operations until 1887, when, on Decoration Day, his whole stock was consumed by fire. He lost a large sum of money as well, but was able to open a store in Chicago, Ohio. This he conducted until 1889, when he sold his interest to his brother and sister and returned to the farm. In 1886, he bought from Levi Platt, the farm on which his son now lives. The deed which Mr. Wheeler holds is only the third that has been given for that farm.

On the 15th of October, 1873, Elder Root pronounced the words that united Mr. Wheeler and Miss Charlotte Ashley in marriage. She is a daughter of

Dennis and Lurna (Bliss) Ashley, of Greenfield township, and has become the mother of five children. Charles N., born July 28, 1874, married Miss Mary Lowery, of Chicago, Illinois, which is his home and they have four children: Marshall, Calvin, John A., and Robert P. Charles N., is a graduate of Oberlin college and is at present political editor on the Chicago Inter-Ocean, and during the past presidential campaign, traveled through the country with Taft and Bryan in their private cars. George M., the second son, born to Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler, was born November 11, 1875, and now lives at Chicago Junction, Ohio. Mary L., born November 8, 1877, married Robert E. Campbell. They live at Chicago Junction, Ohio, and have one child, Winona. J. A., Jr., born May 9, 1885, lives on his father's farm. He married Miss Maud Robinson and they have one son, Van. Ruth, born July 5, 1892, lives at home.

In 1908, Mr. Wheeler bought a home in Steuben, where he now lives in retirement. He has been a man prominent in township affairs, was elected county commissioner in 1891, holding the office six years, and has filled nearly every other office within the gift of the people of Greenfield. He is a stockholder and one of the board of directors of the Home Savings Banks, of Chicago, and of the local telephone company. Fraternally, he is a Knight Templar, Mason, and has been a conspicuous figure in Masonic circles, belonging to Norwalk lodge, No. 18. In the Baptist church his grandfather established he is active also, attending its services and contributing to its maintenance. In short, Mr. Wheeler is a man, who with many years still before him, can look back on the past with gratification, assured that he holds the good wishes of his friends and neighbors.

JAY E. SMITH.

Among the men who enjoy the support and respect of the citizens of Huron county, is Jay E. Smith, who entered upon his duties as auditor of this county, in October, 1909. Fitchville, which was the place of his birth, has of recent years been his home, and here he has made a reputation as a fine business man, imbued with high principles and of sterling integrity. His parents, Thomas J. and Johanna (Van Vecten) Smith, come from families who were among the early pioneers of Fitchville township, the Smiths, perhaps, being slightly the older settlers. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Dr. Van Vecten, who for a number of years practiced his profession in this township, and also carried on a substantial mercantile business at the time when Fitchville was a prominent and prosperous trade center. He later removed to New London, which was the scene of his labor, until his death, which occurred a few years ago. Thomas J. Smith also became a resident of New London, where he was engaged in the butcher business for a number of years, and then removed to Michigan, where he died in June, 1899, at his home in Grand Rapids. His widow has since married Preston Palmer, of Fitchville township.

Jay E. Smith was born in Fitchville township, January 2, 1861. He received his training for life at home and in the schools of this county, working on the home farm when his time was not given to his lessons, and as he grew up finding

employment on the farms of neighbors. He was able after a few years to attend the Cleveland Commercial College, and at the age of twenty-six began his career as a teacher. To this work he devoted himself for seventeen years, the schools of Fitchville township profiting by his services for fifteen years, the other two years of his professional activity being spent in the state of Michigan. He was a popular and progressive instructor and his withdrawal from the teacher's profession was regarded with sincere regret. In 1904, Mr. Smith came to Fitchville and engaged in the farm implement business, which he gave up in the summer of 1909, preparatory to assuming his new duties as auditor of Huron county.

In politics, he has always been a democrat and has for years taken an active part in party and public matters. Although living in a strong republican township, he has served three years as justice of the peace and for two years as a member of the school board. In 1899, he was the democratic candidate for member of the Ohio legislature from Huron county, and the following year was the county's choice for state senator, but was defeated for the nomination in the district convention. In 1902, he was again the democratic candidate for county recorder, but as in 1899, when he sought election as a representative, he was defeated because of the strength of the republicans in Huron county. He was not destined to defeat, however, in 1908, when he was nominated for what is probably the most important office at the disposal of the people of this county, that of auditor. The republicans still boasted of a twelve hundred majority over the democrats, yet in the election of November, 1908, Mr. Smith received two hundred more votes than his opponent and entered upon his duties the 1st of October, 1909.

On the 10th of June, 1888, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Ruth A. Lazell, a daughter of Joseph and Mary A. (Burras) Lazell, of Fitchville township, and seven children have been born to them, four now living, namely: Ruby, Donald, Annabel and Ruth, while John D., Rhoda and L. D. have passed away.

The incident of Mr. Smith's election to an important office is an indication of the attitude of the people, not only of his township, but of the county as well, toward him. He is recognized as a splendid citizen, whose business methods are unquestioned and whose high principles can be relied upon. That he will administer his affairs to the best of his ability there can be no doubt. He is a member of Floral Lodge, F. & A. M., of New London, and is active in Masonic circles, and those that have opportunity to see him at closer range, his fraternal brothers, hold him in even higher esteem than those who are compelled to know him only from a distance.

FRANK CARPENTER.

While Frank Carpenter is one of the recent arrivals in this county, he is a native son of Ohio and during the period of his residence in Chicago Junction, has made for himself many friends and gained a prominent place in public regard. He was born in Seneca county, Ohio, January 16, 1882. His father, William

Carpenter, was also born there. The Carpenters are of an old New York family, but representatives of the name removed westward and settled in Seneca county, when it was a pioneer district. There William Carpenter was born and reared and having arrived at years of maturity, he wedded Mary Cory, a native of Ohio.

Frank Carpenter was educated in the schools of Seneca county and is a graduate of Heidelberg University of the class of 1904. He studied law in the office of his brother, Ray Carpenter, a prominent lawyer of Seneca county, and after passing the required examinations, was admitted to the bar in 1906. In January of the following year, he located for practice in Chicago Junction and in May of the same year, was appointed city solicitor. He is building up a good practice for he has demonstrated his ability in successfully handling intricate legal problems and is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity. A young man of high character, respected and esteemed by all who know him and displaying marked ability in professional lines it seems that a bright future is before him and that his further success is only a matter of time.

MARSDELL E. REEVES.

Among the enterprising and progressive farmers of Ripley township who are meeting with success in their agricultural pursuits, is Marsdell E. Reeves, the owner of one hundred acres of fine land upon which he has resided for eleven years. Born on the 12th of April, 1850, in Fitchville township, Huron county, he is a son of Elias and Mabel (McIntire) Reeves, and the youngest in a family of ten children, the others being; Herman, Munson, Cordon, Mary, Mehitabel, Charlotte, Rosette, Marsden and one who died in infancy.

Marsdell E. Reeves spent the period of his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of the country lad, acquiring his education in the district schools and during the periods of vacation assisting his father in the work of the home farm. He early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the agriculturists and upon attaining his majority wisely chose as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared. He began business life on his own account as a farm hand, working by the month, and was thus engaged for many years. Being desirous, however, of some day owning property of his own, during the intervening years, he labored with unceasing industry and untiring perseverance, carefully saving the money which he received in return for his services, until eventually he had accumulated sufficient means with which to purchase one hundred acres of land in Ripley township, upon which he has since made his home. The farm has now been in his possession for eleven years, and during this period he has directed his energies toward its further improvement, having brought his fields under excellent cultivation. He has equipped the place with all modern conveniences and accessories for facilitating labor, while his business methods are progressive and up-to-date, characteristics which have been salient elements in his prosperity.

It was on the 29th of March, 1898, that Mr. Reeves was united in marriage to Miss Anna Howard, who was born on the 1st of March, 1860. Her parents

were William Howard, born March 12, 1823, and Eliza (Case) Howard, whose birth occurred in 1829. The father, who served as a soldier in the Union army at the time of the Civil war, was a prominent figure in the community in which he resided and was familiarly known to many close friends as "Uncle Billy." He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Adeline, Wesley, Franklin, Edward, Anna, Willard, Marvin, Melvin, Sherman, Burton and Sarah.

Fraternally Mr. Reeves is a master Mason and holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in both of which bodies he is an active and prominent worker. He gives stalwart support to the republican party and although he neither desires nor seeks office for himself, is deeply interested in the affairs of the party and does all in his power to further its influence in the community and elect its men to the various offices. He is not only well known in agricultural circles of Ripley township, but is also a member of the Greenwich Telephone Company, better known as the Clinton Air Line. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which he has attained gratifying success that has come to him as the logical result of indefatigable energy and well directed effort.

WILLIAM C. SCHEID.

William C. Scheid, devoting his time and energies to the cultivation and improvement of his farm of ninety-five acres in Peru township and seventy-five acres in Sherman township, was born on this place on the 8th of December, 1861. His parents, John William and Catherine (Beilstein) Scheid, were both natives of Germany, the former born on the 9th of January, 1818, and the latter in 1826. In 1849, the father accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world, the family home being established in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, where both the grandfather and the grandmother of our subject passed away. John William Scheid, the father of William C. Scheid, continued to make his home in Peru township, until called to his final rest on the 30th of November, 1903, being successfully identified with general agricultural pursuits throughout his active business career. He assisted in the organization and erection of the Lutheran church in Peru township and served as one of its elders for a number of years. His wife, who had made the journey to the new world in company with her sisters and brothers, was called to her final rest in 1885. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, namely: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Charles J. Heyman and resides in Lyme township; August, living in Peru township; Henrietta, who makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Hass, in Sherman township; William C., of this review; Catherine B., residing in Sherman township, who is the wife of George C. Hass; and L. H., of California.

In pursuit of an education William C. Scheid attended both the district and German schools and early in life became familiar with the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist through the assistance which he rendered his father in the cultivation of the old homestead farm. It is a highly improved and valuable tract of land comprising ninety-five acres and here Mr. Scheid has lived from his birth to the present time, his agricultural interests proving a good



MR. AND MRS. W. C. SCHEID

source of revenue. Many of the substantial improvements on the property stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise and the well tilled fields annually yield golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows upon them. His landed holdings also include a farm of seventy-five acres in Sherman township and he is widely recognized as a prosperous, enterprising and progressive citizen of his native county. For nine years, he acted as agent for the Huron County Mutual Insurance Company.

On the 24th of February, 1898, Mr. Scheid was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Elizabeth Longscheid, of Sherman township, a daughter of William and Wilhelmina (Gerhard) Longscheid, both natives of Germany. The father was born February 10, 1835, and came to America in July, 1854, being about four months in crossing the ocean on account of severe storms. He died on the 1st of February, 1868, and his wife, who was born January 11, 1835, passed away on the 9th of May, 1872. She came to this country in the spring of 1855 with her parents, but her mother took cold on the ship and died shortly after her arrival in America. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Scheid have been born four children, namely: William A., Freda M., and Arnold N., all at home; and Edwin J., who died in infancy. Mr. Scheid has held various official positions in the Lutheran church, of which he is a valued and prominent member. In the community where they reside both he and his wife are much esteemed as people of genuine worth, manifesting those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard.

WILLIAM J. BEELMAN.

William J. Beelman, whose activity in the United Brethren church has made him well known throughout Huron county, is farming his eighty-four acres of rich land in Richmond township and is one of the excellent representatives of the agricultural class. He was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, June 13, 1867, being a son of Adam and Frances Elmyra (Coover) Beelman. The father was born March 3, 1843, in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and came to Huron county, Ohio, when twenty-seven years of age. He now resides at Chicago, Ohio, but he lost his wife in 1876. They had a family as follows: William J., who is the eldest; Geary J.; Mary, who married William Helter; and Frances Elmyra, who married Elmer L. Bare and lives at Grand Junction, Colorado. After the death of his first wife, Adam Beelman was married in October, 1878, to Jennie Daughtery, and they have one daughter, Mabel V., who lives with her parents. The paternal grandparents of William J. Beelman were George and Elizabeth (Brant) Beelman, natives of Pennsylvania, while the maternal grandparents were Jacob and Margaret Coover, who were also born in Pennsylvania.

William J. Beelman went to the district school for about four months every winter until he attained his majority, and in the summer he worked very hard upon the farm. His first employment after leaving home was working on neighboring farms by the month and at the same time he learned the carpenter's trade. After working at this trade for fifteen years, he engaged with the Beelman Lumber Company at Chicago, and continued with them for twenty-two months. Then in 1908, he bought his present farm from the heirs of his father-in-law's estate and since then this has been his home.

On September 7, 1893, Mr. Beelman married Mary M. Keesy, a daughter of John H. and Margaret (Johnston) Keesy, who were natives of Pennsylvania, but came to Ohio at an early day. Mrs. Beelman belongs to a family which was as follows: Addie, who married William Riddle; Olive O., who married Chris Kilper; Edith Estella, who married Elmer Beelman; Mary M., the wife of William J. Beelman. Mr. and Mrs. Beelman have two children: Ross E., born November 13, 1894; and Effie Elmyra, born April 16, 1898.

Mr. Beelman is school director and served as township clerk for one term, being elected both times on the republican ticket. During the time he has been in office, he has proven himself efficient and public-spirited. He and his wife belong to the United Brethren church, in which they are very active and he is class leader. He is a man of considerable force of character and one who is able to influence his associates and fortunate for them it is always exerted for their good to lead them into the higher walks of life.

ARTHUR E. STEVENS.

Arthur E. Stevens was for many years actively identified with the agricultural interests of Huron county, but is now practically living retired in a comfortable home in North Fairfield, although he still retains the management of his farm of one hundred acres in Ripley township. Throughout his career of continued and far-reaching usefulness his duties have been performed with the greatest care and his business interests have been so managed as to win him the confidence of the public and the prosperity which should always attend honorable effort.

Mr. Stevens was born in New York on the 18th of April, 1843, and is a son of Timothy and Janet (Rose) Stevens, the former a son of Ezra and Lucy (Foote) Stevens. He was the eldest in a family of five children born unto Timothy Stevens and his wife, the others being Clarence, Elizabeth, Lucy and Minerva.

Arthur E. Stevens was reared to agricultural pursuits, giving his father the benefit of his services on the home farm until he had reached years of maturity, when he started out in life on his own account and has since been identified with farming pursuits in Fairfield township. He purchased a farm of one hundred acres, to the improvement and development of which he directed his entire energies, practicing the rotation of crops and studying the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and the best methods of cultivating same. He toiled earn-

estly from early spring planting until late autumn harvest, and that he was successful in his undertaking is indicated in the fact that his enterprise and industry were crowned with a gratifying measure of success that now makes it possible for him to live in retirement, enjoying the fruits of his former toil. Although he retains the management of his farm, he has, nevertheless, withdrawn from active business life, and resides in a comfortable home in North Fairfield.

It was in 1866 that Mr. Stevens was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Burton, who was born in Bronson township, Huron county, in 1845 and is a daughter of Edward and Laura (Heath) Burton. She was the eldest of a family of seven children born unto her parents, the others being LeRoy, Dealton, Adolphus, Mary, Ida and Emma. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens has been blessed with the following children, Jeanette, Clara, Burton, Thornton, Pearl and Edward. The family are members of the Christian church, the teachings of which form the guiding influences of their lives. Mr. Stevens is democratic in politics, and although he neither seeks nor desires office for himself, he is nevertheless loyal in his support of his party and is public-spirited in his citizenship, at all times advocating the measures which tend to promote the growth and upbuilding of the community. During the period of his residence in Huron county he has gained a wide circle of friends who hold him in high respect and regard because of his many sterling qualities.

GEORGE A. HOENER.

George A. Hoener owns and operates a good tract of land, comprising one hundred and thirty-three acres, situated in Sherman township and here he gives his entire time and attention to general farming. He is a native of Germany, born December 1, 1848, a son of George A. and Conneherd (Seibert) Hoener, who reared a family of six children and both the parents passed away in the old country. The members of the family are: Cunahunda, George A., Magdelina, Michael, George, deceased; and Leonard.

George A. Hoener pursued his studies in the schools of his native land and there remained until he had reached the age of twenty-eight years. Believing that he might more quickly gain a start in the business world in the United States than he would in Germany, he then sailed for this country. He made his way to Huron county and for three years subsequent to his arrival worked on various farms in Sherman township. He then purchased fifteen acres of land, but unfortunately lost this. He took new courage, however, and worked on earnestly and energetically until he was eventually able to invest in another small tract, to which he added from time to time until his place now embraces one hundred and thirty-three acres in Sherman township. He has made his home on this place for the past two decades and during this time has been busily engaged in its cultivation. His fields are well tilled and annually produce good crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

It was prior to his emigration to the new world that Mr. Hoener was married, September 26, 1869, Miss Barbara Zimmerman becoming his wife. She

was born in Germany, June 21, 1841, and is a sister of Lawrence Zimmerman, who is a farmer of Sherman township and is mentioned on another page of this work. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hoener has been blessed with five children: Pheadus, who wedded Anna Heyman, by whom he has three children, Florence, Edna and Laura; Charles, who wedded Emma Heyman and they also have three children, Alma, Harold and Gladys; John, who wedded Kathryn Brinker, of Cleveland, and their family also numbers three children, Mildred, Julia and Ralph; Maggie, the wife of Charles Herner, of Greenfield township, their family numbering three sons, Clarence, Earl and Raymond; and Anna, the wife of Daniel Grine, by whom she has three sons, Carl, Walter and Arthur John.

Mr. Hoener is a democrat in his political views and affiliations but aside from serving on the school board has never held public office. He is a member of the Lutheran church at Pontiac. He has fully realized and availed himself of the opportunities and advantages in this country, and although he has met with some reverses, he has worked on undeterred by obstacles until today he possesses a fine farming property and is classed among the substantial farmers of Sherman township.

WILLIAM MILLER.

William Miller, a prominent and well known citizen of Huron county, is extensively and successfully engaged in farming and stock raising on his farm of two hundred and ten acres in Lyme township. He is a native son of this county, his birth having occurred in Lyme township on the 18th of November, 1857, while his parents, William and Bena (Ohlenmacher) Miller, were natives of Germany. The father, who was born in 1834, crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1845 and three years later, was married to Miss Bena Ohlenmacher, whose birth had occurred in the year 1836. She passed away in 1860, leaving three children: William, Henry and Charles, all of whom still survive. For his second wife William Miller, Sr., chose Miss Jane Gross, a daughter of Phillip Gross, who was one of the first settlers of this county and in the early days conducted a tavern near Bellevue. By this union there were nine children, namely: Clara, Anna, Rudolph, Rosa, Flora, Lydia, Lawrence, Emma and Chauncey. William Miller, the father of our subject, was a prominent agriculturist by occupation and invented the then famous corn-husk mattresses and seats, such as used in the railway coaches, making a fortune through the careful control of his interests in this connection. He capably served in the positions of township trustee and township treasurer for a number of years and was a valued member of the Reformed church at Monroeville, acting as trustee, treasurer and in other official positions. When he was called to his final rest in 1905 the county mourned the loss of one of its most substantial, representative and respected citizens and one whose life in all of its phases had been straightforward and honorable.

William Miller continued to reside in his native township until eight years of age and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Erie county, where he made his home until he had attained the age of twenty-three years.

He then returned to Huron county but in the meantime had followed the advice of his father and gone to Michigan, where he took up a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, disposing of the property, however, three years later. He purchased his present farm of two hundred and ten acres in Lyme township from Henry Bollenbacher and as the years have gone by has made varied and extensive improvements on the property, which is lacking in none of the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. He has an attractive and modern brick residence, equipped with carbon lights, water works, etc. In addition to the home farm he also owns forty acres of land near Norwalk and has a tract of eighty acres in Texas and another of forty acres in Oklahoma. On the home place he not only cultivates the cereals best adapted to soil and climate but also makes a specialty of raising fine sheep and cattle, meeting with a most gratifying and well merited degree of prosperity in his undertakings. He is likewise acting as general manager of the Flat Rock Creamery Company of Seneca county, of which he is a stockholder and director and is a stockholder in the local telephone company of Bellevue and the Gardner Milling Company of that place. It will thus be seen that his interests are extensive and varied and that he is a man of excellent executive ability, keen discrimination and sound judgment is indicated by the success which has attended his efforts.

On the 17th of February, 1882, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Bollenbacher, who was born in Lyme township, December 20, 1853, a daughter of Philip Bollenbacher, who was one of the pioneer blacksmiths of this county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born two children, Dora and Anna, both at home.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Miller has given his political allegiance to the men and measures of the democratic party and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to various positions of public trust. He is now serving his twelfth year as constable of Lyme township and has been township trustee and road supervisor, while for seven years he was a member of the school board. A devoted and faithful member of the Lutheran church of Lyme township, he does all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence and is at present acting as clerk and trustee thereof.

Such, in brief, is the life history of William Miller. In whatever relation of life we find him—in political circles, in business or in social relations—he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman, whose worth well merits the high regard which is uniformly given him.

CHARLES SUHR.

Charles Suhr, a strong and able lawyer of the Norwalk bar, possesses all of the requisite qualities of the successful attorney, including an excellent presence and earnest dignified manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to accurately apply its principles. He needs no introduction

to the readers of this volume for he is numbered among Norwalk's native sons, his birth having here occurred October 16, 1860.

His father, William Suhr, was born in Saxony, Germany, on the 7th of March, 1829, and after spending the first fifteen years of his life in the land of his nativity came with his parents to the United States, when fifteen years of age. His father, Charles W. Suhr, first settled in Cleveland and William Suhr there resided until the death of his father and mother. In early life, he became familiar with the tailoring and clothing trade and was in business there along that line until the disastrous fire of 1851, when his stock was destroyed and he removed to Norwalk. Here he embarked in the same line of business in 1853 and continued successfully in that department of trade for forty-five years or until 1898, when he retired. Throughout this period, he had enjoyed a very liberal and extended patronage, his success being the result of the fine line of goods which he carried and the excellent workmanship which he turned out. His last years were spent in well earned and honorable rest from labor and in January, 1907, he was called to the home beyond. He was a most highly respected man by reason of the progressive citizenship which he displayed and his enterprise and reliability in commercial circles. He was a very active and earnest supporter of the republican party and was called to several offices, serving as a member of the city council, also as city treasurer for several terms and again as township treasurer. No trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree and in all of his official duties, he displayed the same spirit of enterprise and advancement which characterized his efforts in business lines. He had a marked influence among the German-American people of this part of the state and he was also prominent in Masonry, being a splendid representative of the craft. He filled all of the chairs in the blue lodge, the chapter, the council and the commandery, and his life was in close conformity to the teachings of the order concerning brotherly kindness and mutual helpfulness. In early manhood, he married Mary Cashbaugh, a native of Pennsylvania, who was living in Cleveland, however, at the time of their marriage. She passed away several years prior to the death of her husband, being called to the home beyond March 20, 1903, when seventy years of age.

Charles Suhr was the fifth in order of birth in a family of six children, namely: Amelia, who was born in Cleveland and was accidentally killed at the age of twelve years; George W., who was born in Norwalk in 1855; Mary and William A., also natives of this city; Charles of this review; and Laura E., who died in July, 1908.

Charles Suhr was educated in the Norwalk schools and at Kenyon, Ohio, where he pursued a three years' college course. He afterward took up the study of law with the intention of making its practice his life work, pursuing his reading in the office and under the direction of Stephen M. Young. In 1885, he was admitted to the bar and opened an office in Norwalk. Here he has since been identified with the legal profession and in 1902, he was elected probate judge, which positions he filled continuously, capably and acceptably until 1909, when he retired from the bench and resumed private practice. He has a keen, rapid, logical mind plus business sense and a ready capacity for hard work qualities, which are indispensable in the successful lawyer.

In 1891, Mr. Suhr was married to Miss Millie A. Howe, a native of Peru, Huron county, Ohio, and a daughter of James and Hannah L. (Hatfield) Howe, representatives of old pioneer families of this part of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Suhr have become the parents of four children: Carl W., J. Vernon, Marian M., and Charles Dudley. Mr. Suhr is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has taken the degrees of the chapter and commandery. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of the Maccabees. In politics, he is very active. He is much interested in the welfare of the town and county, is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and does all in his power to advance the best interests of the community, co-operating in every movement which he deems essential in promoting its growth and prosperity. He has a circle of friends almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance, for geniality, deference for the opinions of others and kindness have gained him a firm hold on the affection of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

JAMES P. WASHBURN.

James P. Washburn, a progressive and prosperous agriculturist, owning three hundred acres of fine farm land in New London township, is one of the self-made men of Huron county for, starting out in life empty-handed, he has acquired the success which he now enjoys entirely through his own indefatigable energy and well directed efforts. He was born in Illinois on the 26th of August, 1862, and when but two years of age he came with his parents to Ohio, where the family home was established in New London township. His mother's death occurred when he was a little lad of five years, while at the age of fifteen years he was left an orphan by the death of his father. He then went to live with an uncle, Oliver Washburn, in whose home he remained until his marriage. At this time he purchased a farm to which he removed and which he continued to operate for ten years, at the expiration of which period he sold the property and purchased another farm, while later he bought the old Golden homestead, upon which his wife and her father were both born, and which had been in the Golden family for more than sixty-five years. He has since directed his energies toward its further cultivation and improvement, erecting a new and comfortable dwelling in its midst, while he has also built substantial and commodious barns and outbuildings which stand as monuments to his enterprise and thrift. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and made of the place one of the valuable farming properties of New London township, upon which he intends to make his home throughout the remainder of his life. His property holdings consist of three hundred acres of land and he is ranked among the substantial and representative farmers of the township. He was identified with financial interests for about five years, being a director of the Savings Bank of New London for that period of time.

Mr. Washburn was united in marriage on the 6th of October, 1885, to Miss Frances Golden, who was born December 23, 1864. Unto this union have been

born two children: Margaret, born November 4, 1895; and Marion, born on the 13th of November, 1904.

Politically Mr. Washburn is a republican, doing all in his power to further the influence of that party throughout the community and he is loyal and public-spirited in his citizenship. His has been a life of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of honest labor, and few men in Huron county can more justly claim nor more richly deserve the proud American title of a self-made man.

JACOB P. HEYMAN.

Jacob P. Heyman is numbered among the large landowners and substantial citizens of Sherman township, where he owns a valuable farm of two hundred and twenty-one acres, which, with the assistance of his sons he is now operating. Mr. Heyman is a native son of this township, his birth having occurred on the farm which is still his home, January 6, 1864, his parents being John George William and Elizabeth (Longscheid) Heyman, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came when a young man with his parents to the new world, the family home being established at Hunt's Corners in Lyme township, Huron county. There the father spent the most of his remaining days and died at the home of his son Daniel in 1903. He was at that time seventy-seven years of age, for his birth occurred in 1826. He was a very influential man in the community in which he made his home and took a helpful part in the upbuilding and improvement of the locality in which he lived. He assisted materially in the erection of the Reformed church at Hunt's Corners, in which he served as an official for many years. A democrat in politics, he served as township trustee, as road supervisor and as a member of the school board and in many other ways gave support to public interests. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Longscheid, accompanied her parents, Christian and Katharine Longscheid on their emigration from Germany to the new world, their home being established in Sherman township. She died in 1887, at the age of fifty-nine years. She became the mother of ten children: George, deceased; Emeline, the wife of August Scheid, of Peru township; Daniel, who makes his home in Lyme township, this county; Thomas, also of Lyme township; Mary, who has passed away; Jacob P., of this review; Philip and Mary, both of whom are deceased; William, who lives in Lyme township; and Albert, who makes his home in Sherman township. There is also one son, Charles, of Sherman township, who was born of the father's former marriage.

Jacob P. Heyman has spent his entire life in Huron county and acquired his education in the district schools. He has made farming his life work and that his labors have been attended with success is evidenced by the valuable farm of which he is today the owner, his place comprising two hundred and twenty-one acres, located in Sherman township. He has made many improvements on the place in the way of a good residence, substantial barn and outbuildings, has fenced the fields and uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate his labors.

That the soil is rich and arable is indicated by the fine crops which he annually gathers and altogether he is one of the substantial farmers of Huron county. In addition to this property Mr. Heyman is a stockholder, treasurer and one of the directors of the Sherman Oil & Gas Company and is likewise a stockholder of the Herman Hess Clothing & Shoe Company at Monroeville.

Mr. Heyman was married December 23, 1888, to Miss Katharine Williams, a daughter of Alton and Clara (Longscheid) Williams, residents of Norwich township. Mrs. Heyman was born in Germany, and was brought by her parents to the United States in 1872, their home being established in Norwich township. Both the parents are now deceased, the father passing away May 4, 1896, at the age of seventy-one years, while the mother preceded him to the home beyond, her death occurring April 10, 1889, when she was sixty-two years of age. Their family numbered six children, as follows: Minnie, the wife of William Miller, a resident of Minnesota; John, who makes his home near Center-ton, in Huron county; Elizabeth, who became the wife of William Popp but is now deceased; Charles W., residing in Seneca county, Ohio; Mrs. Heyman, and August, of Sherman township.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Heyman has been blessed with eight children: Claud, who was born October 21, 1889; Carl, whose birth occurred December 11, 1891; Earl, February 19, 1894; Orlan, who was born November 25, 1896; Ivan, October 18, 1898; Guy, born December 13, 1900; Myron, July 28, 1903; and Sylvan, whose birth occurred May 28, 1906.

Mr. Heyman gives his political support to the democratic party and on that ticket has been elected to a number of township offices, including that of trustee and road supervisor, while he has likewise served on the school board. He is a member of the Reformed church at Hunt's Corners and has been an official in the church. His success has come to him through energy, labor and perseverance, directed by an evenly balanced mind and by honorable business principles. In manner he is quiet and straightforward, and his word has become a synonym for business integrity.

WILLIAM RIDDLE.

Scientific farming today is very different from that which was done half a century ago, for modern methods and machinery have revolutionized agricultural life and made of the farmer an extremely important factor in the life of the country. William Riddle, who resides upon his fine farm of two hundred and forty-seven acres of land in Richmond township, is an example of the best class of progressive and thoroughly modern farmers. He was born in Knox county, Ohio, September 12, 1863, and is a son of John and Amanda (Thornton) Riddle. They came to the farm of Mr. Riddle in 1865, when he was a mere infant, and spent the remainder of their lives upon it, the father dying here in 1890, and his widow in 1893. In early manhood the father taught during the winter months, while in the summer he operated his farm. He continued to teach in the district schools for eighteen years and was well known throughout the county as a good

and conscientious educator. He also taught two years in the graded school at Bellville, Ohio. John Riddle and wife were the parents of the following family: Lydia, who married John W. Miller; Archibald, who is deceased; Sybal, who married W. F. Miller; Philander J., John J.; Lunetta, who married George Hatch; and William, who was the youngest.

William Riddle attended the district school during the winter until he reached manhood's estate, and helped his father in the summer. After the latter's death he bought the farm and ever since has been devoting himself to its further improvement until he has one of the best farms in Huron county. Among other improvements, he built a new barn, remodeled the house, which is a beautiful one, and put in about five hundred dollars worth of tile. Prior to his father's death, five hundred dollars more were expended in the same manner, so that the swamp land has been thoroughly redeemed.

On January 18, 1886, Mr. Riddle married Addie A. Keesy, a daughter of John and Margaret (Johnston) Keesy, who were farmers of Richmond township. The mother died in December, 1901, and the father in September, 1907. They were the parents of the following children: Addie A., who was the eldest; Orlene, who married Chris Kelper; Estella, who married E. L. Bechman; and Miranda, who married William Beelman. Mr. and Mrs. Riddle have had two children, namely: Leroy, born in November, 1890; and Margaret, born in June, 1901.

Like his father, Mr. Riddle is a republican, and his devotion to his party has been rewarded by election to the office of township trustee for two terms, to that of school director for two terms, and that of road supervisor for one term. Both he and his wife belong to the United Brethren church. Mr. Riddle is a man who has the welfare of the community at heart, and is ever ready to lend assistance in advancing public improvements he believes will prove beneficial, but his common sense and excellent judgment keep him from rushing blindly into anything before he has thoroughly tested its advisability.

ALBERT T. GAMBER.

Albert T. Gamber, of Wakeman township, the son of William F. and Elizabeth (Reynolds) Gamber, was born in Fayette, Fulton county, Ohio, October 29, 1865. His father was a pioneer of Fulton county, removing there from New York in 1845. The town of Fayette was founded by his father, Henry Gamber, and named for his native village in New York. A well educated man and a teacher, he took special interest in matters educational, and was progressive and active in all public matters. As a democrat he stood for the principles of his chosen party, always keeping thoroughly informed in regard to things political. In 1878, he removed to Huron county and four years later located in Townsend township, where he became one of the substantial farmers of the county, strong in his many good qualities and excellent citizenship. His death occurring April 15, 1909, at the age of seventy-six, he was laid to rest in the cemetery of Fayette,



MR. AND MRS. A. T. GAMBER

which town his father had founded many years before. His wife preceded him several years, having died in 1871. Of the family of four sons, Fordyce D., Clement, Edward L., and Albert T., the last named is the only survivor.

Albert T. Gamber grew to manhood on the farm of his father with only the privilege of a district-school education. At an early age engaging in farm work by the month, he acquired the experience he needed for the success of his later years. On July 10, 1886, he married Miss Nettie Sly, a daughter of Robert and Jane (Draper) Sly, both families being pioneers of the county. The father came from New York. Mr. and Mrs. Sly still residents of Townsend township, are people of eminently high character and are held in great esteem. To Mr. and Mrs. Gamber six children have been born, three of whom are living: Fordyce A., a student at Oberlin college; Robert F., a student at Wakeman high school; and Clara E. Two children died in infancy and Clare L., died at the age of two and a half years.

After his marriage, Mr. Gamber accomplished the feat of boarding himself and keeping his family, for one year on the two hundred dollars wages received for farm work. The following year, he rented a farm on Hartland Ridge, where he remained for two years and then removed to Townsend township, where he continued renting for nine years. Concluding he could do better in another state, he removed to Michigan, expecting to invest in a farm, but he rented for two years instead, that he might become better acquainted with the soil. However, Huron county, Ohio, seemed to hold attractions not to be found in Michigan and back to Townsend township the family moved, where the farm of one hundred and fifty acres on which they now live was purchased. From a stock farm very much run down, Mr. Gamber has built up the place until it is now one of the finest farms in the county.

Always interested in sheep, in 1893 he began the breeding of the Delaine Merino variety, and from a small exhibitor at the county fairs, the business has grown until he has become one of the foremost breeders of the world. Exhibiting at the Omaha exposition, he gained all first prizes, not including any of the special prizes, of which he captured a large number. The same year he entered at five state fairs for a possible fifty-seven first prizes and secured fifty-two of them. Mr. Gamber's flocks consist of only thoroughbred animals and are shipped all over the world, some going as far as South Africa. They command the highest prices, occasionally bringing five hundred dollars for stud rams and for car-load lots twenty-five to thirty dollars per head. Mr. Gamber is a recognized authority on his particular breed of sheep and has made a wonderful success of the business. It is of record that Ring Leader, a ram, is one of the greatest sires in the United States, many of his sons and daughters going to South Africa at fancy prices.

Though sheep breeding demands the entire attention of the owner, the necessary general farming is carried on in a very methodical manner. The sheep barns are arranged for the proper care of the sheep in all kinds of weather, and each animal is as carefully looked after as a fine horse. Mr. Gamber estimates that his success is due to his genuine love for sheep, his careful study of grades and the great care taken of them, during the entire year. His flock run up into the hundreds. Aside from his business and personal affairs, he still has time to

be interested in public matters and is an advocate of progress in all things, especially good roads, educational advantages and beautifying the county.

A standing monument to a man is his home and its surroundings, and this home of the Gamber family is no exception, for it is beautiful, with its substantial and well lighted buildings, well kept lawns, and furnace heated house. The members of the family are Congregationalists, and active in both church and Sunday school, Mrs. Gamber being especially interested in education and Christian work. She is also a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church. Her home, to which she is devoted, is well supplied with good literature, and she adds to this a refined and healthful influence.

Mr. Gamber, though not an active worker in politics, is an intelligent supporter of republican principles. Of other organizations, he is a member of Lodge 301, F. & A. M., and Wakeman Grange, Patrons of Husbandry. He is also a member of the American Delaine—Merino Record Association, being one of the pedigree committee, and of the National Wool Growers Association, of the United States.

FRANCIS E. SCOTT.

Francis E. Scott, a traveling nurseryman of Fairfield, Ohio, was born in Union county, Ohio, in 1862, and is a son of Charles and Helen (Southwick) Scott. He was the eldest in a family of six children, the other members being Ida, Cash, Nathan, George and Charles. Francis E. Scott acquired his education in the common schools of Ohio and remained under the parental roof until he had attained years of manhood, when he entered business life on his own account. He is now identified with the nursery business as journeyman, making his headquarters at Fairfield, Ohio, purchasing various kinds of trees which he in turn sells throughout Huron and adjoining counties. He is alert, enterprising and industrious, these elements forming the salient characteristics in the success which he is enjoying in his chosen work.

In 1897 Mr. Scott was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Hoyt, who was born in 1866 in North Fairfield, and is the only child of Icabod and Elizabeth (Godfrey) Hoyt. The former was the eldest child in a family of three children born unto Walter and Caroline (Benson) Hoyt, the others being Elmon and Mercy, while his wife was the second child in the family of Andrew and Rachel (Wing) Godfrey, their family consisting of Elizabeth, Zerah, and Michael. The Hoyts were among the earliest pioneer settlers of Fairfield township and were well known and prominent in the community in which they resided. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott has been blessed with one son, Hoyt Southwick, who was born on the 6th of September, 1898, and is the light and life of the household.

Mr. Scott has given his allegiance to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and he is most loyal in his citizenship, at all times being deeply interested in all matters pertaining to the general wel-

fare of the community. He is highly esteemed in the vicinity where he has made his home for some time, and as an enterprising, energetic and prosperous business man well deserves mention in this volume.

SILAS E. CRAWFORD.

The life record of Silas E. Crawford is that of a successful manufacturer and business man yet the range of his activities and the scope of his influence have reached far beyond this special field. He belongs to that public-spirited, useful and helpful type of men, whose ambitions and desires are centered and directed in those channels through which flow the greatest and most permanent good to the greatest number. As a business man his activities were such as to promote general prosperity as well as individual success, and he remained for many years a well known manufacturer of this city, but he is now living retired, his activity being confined to the supervision of his invested interests.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Crawford was born in Richland county, September 20, 1842, a son of David and Margaret (Miller) Crawford. The father was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1810, while the mother's birth occurred at Ellicott's Mills, Maryland. The father came to Ohio with his parents, John and Mary Crawford, and settled in Richland county, becoming identified with agricultural interests there. In that locality David Crawford was reared and on attaining his majority he engaged in teaching school for many years. He also learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed to some extent. In the late '40s he removed to Huron county, Ohio, where he worked at this trade until his death. Both he and his wife are now deceased. In their family were ten children, of whom three were born in Huron county.

In the public schools Silas E. Crawford pursued his education, but his parents were in limited financial circumstances and at an early age he had to start out in life on his own account as it was necessary that he provide for his own maintenance. Having learned the trade of carriagemaking, he came to Norwalk in 1877 and began business for himself in company with others. He afterward sold out and took up the manufacture of pumps in 1876, continuing in that field of activity until 1900, when he retired from active business. In the twenty-four years in which he devoted his energies to manufacturing lines he became widely recognized as a man of keen business discernment, careful in formulating his plans and determined in their execution. He learned to utilize every force to the best advantage and as year by year passed he so used his opportunities that success resulted. Moreover, in all that he did his course conformed to a high standard of commercial ethics. In 1888 the Home Savings & Loan Company was organized and he became the vice-president, with Mr. Gallup as president, and he is still officially connected with the company in that capacity.

In the midst of arduous business cares demanding close application and unfaltering perseverance, Mr. Crawford has yet found time to aid in the promotion of public affairs which have had for their object the betterment of the com-

munity. His interest therein has been manifest in various substantial and tangible methods, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his devotion to the public good, twice elected him a member of the city council, of which he served for one term as president. He was also for four years mayor of the city, and his administration was businesslike and progressive, resulting in the introduction of various needed reforms and improvements. In 1908 he was elected to represent Huron county in the seventy-eighth general assembly, being the first democrat ever chosen to the office from his county. His position on any important public question is never an equivocal one. He does not hesitate to announce his opinion or to support his honest convictions and his course has ever commanded the confidence and admiration of his fellowmen.

In 1869 Mr. Crawford was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Harrington, with whom he traveled life's journey for more than thirty-five years. They were separated in death in 1903 and in 1905 Mr. Crawford was again married, his second union being with Martha W. Wightman, a native of Hastings, Michigan.

Fraternally Mr. Crawford is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and other societies. He has long occupied a position of leadership in this county, his native talents, his acquired ability, his patriotic citizenship and his devotion to the public welfare winning him a place of prominence and securing for him the unqualified confidence and respect of the public at large. His rare aptitude and ability in achieving results have made him constantly sought and have often brought him into a prominence from which he would naturally shrink were less desirable ends in view. He has, however, always felt a hearty concern for the public welfare and has been helpful in bringing about those purifying and wholesome reforms which have been gradually growing in the political, municipal and social life of the city. During the dark days of the Civil war he manifested his patriotism by enlisting in Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for four months, and later became a member of the One Hundred and Ninety-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served as first lieutenant for eight months.

ROBERT C. PARKER.

Robert C. Parker, a progressive young farmer of Fitchville township, Huron county, was born on the 21st of April, 1877, near Monroeville, Ohio, and is a son of John and Ann (Clark) Parker, both of whom are natives of Lincolnshire, England, and are still living. The mother was but a young girl when she came with her parents to this country, and the father was only fifteen when his family emigrated. Both the Parkers and the Clarks came direct to Monroeville, Ohio, and there John obtained work, at first as a laborer. He later engaged in farming in Fitchville township and became a prosperous man.

Robert C. Parker was reared at home, spending his youth on the farm. He received his early education in the district schools of the county and then entered the Fitchville high school, from which he was graduated in 1895, a member of

the first class issuing from that institution. For several years he continued farming with his father, but after his marriage, in 1908, he purchased the place which has since been his home and the scene of his endeavors. It is a tract of one hundred and fifty acres, all excellent land, which Mr. Parker has brought to a high degree of productiveness, for he is an intelligent farmer who goes about his work on a scientific basis, giving especial consideration to the subject of rotation of crops and the composition of the soil, that he may receive the best products of his labor. He pursues a diversified farming and raises a good deal of stock, and is accounted a successful man.

On the 9th of April, 1898, Mr. Parker was united in marriage to Miss Daisy Simmons, a daughter of Elbridge G. and Mary (Weed) Simmons, of Lorain county. One son, Claude R., has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Parker.

Mr. Parker is an up-to-date young man who takes an active interest in public affairs and keeps himself well informed upon the questions that are before the people. He affiliates with no party, however, preferring to vote for men and measures as seems best to him. Nor has he filled any office in the township, though many times urged to accept one by men who discern in him great ability and the strength of purpose that would not let him be swerved from what he believed to be right. Successful in his business and progressive in his ideas, it is hoped that he may soon overcome his reluctance to public life, that others may profit by his life and work.

CHARLES McCLAVE.

Charles McClave needs no introduction to the readers of this volume for he is known throughout the entire country as the owner of the Linwood Poultry yards at New London, Ohio, and as a breeder and raiser of some of the finest poultry that has been produced in the United States. His birth occurred June 21, 1859, in the town where he still makes his home. The father, Chester McClave, came with his parents from the state of New York to Ohio when a boy of less than five years, arriving in 1832 and spent the remainder of his life upon the farm where his son Charles now resides, his death occurring December 12, 1893. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Matilda White, was born in Ruggles, Ashland county, Ohio, and is still living. Chester McClave was a farmer throughout his entire life and dealt quite extensively in cattle.

The district schools afforded Charles McClave his educational privileges. In 1874 he made his initial venture in the poultry business, raising and breeding thoroughbred poultry and in the intervening years he has continued in this field of labor with excellent success. He has developed the Linwood poultry yards, now widely known throughout America, and is extensively engaged in the raising of twenty different varieties of fine poultry, giving particular attention, however, to Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes. He raises the Barred Plymouth Rocks, White, Golden and Silver Wyandottes, Partridge, Black and Columbian Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, White and Brown Leghorns, Rose Comb White Leghorns, Black Minorcas, Light Brahmas, Dark Brahmas, Partridge Cochins,

Buff Orpingtons, Black Orpingtons, Black Javas, Blue Adalusians and English Red Caps and Bantams.

For the past twenty years Mr. McClave has been prominent as a poultry judge. He holds a judge's certificate issued by the American Poultry Association, certifying that he is an official judge for all varieties, and he is considered one of the best in the United States. In this capacity he travels from New York to San Francisco to make his engagements, covering about ten thousand miles annually. He has twenty-five hundred prize ribbons, representing the different prizes he has won with his poultry at various poultry shows as well as many medals which are only given for sweepstake prizes. He has one medal presented by the president of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in token of good will and service rendered at the occasion of the St. Louis Fair of 1904. He was a large exhibitor at that exposition, winning seventy-six ribbons and he also acted as judge of different classes of birds in which he was making no exhibits. He also has a very fine badge which was presented to him at the St. Louis Exposition. At the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago he was appointed superintendent of water fowls for ornamenting the lakes and waterways, embracing over six hundred rare specimens, both foreign and domestic. He spent over seven months at the World's Fair in full charge of this department. He was also an exhibitor at the poultry show there, winning over sixty prizes and also the cup for the best display from Ohio. He has made altogether over one hundred and seventy public exhibitions of poultry, winning in round numbers over eight thousand prizes, including such shows as are held in Boston, Syracuse, Buffalo, Pittsburg, Baltimore, Cleveland, St. Louis, Chicago and other places. Mr. McClave stands at the head of the poultry business as a breeder, exhibitor and judge. He makes daily shipments of fancy thoroughbred poultry to all parts of the United States and foreign countries, breeding about two thousand birds annually and also shipping large quantities of eggs for hatching purposes. He also handles a large and choice variety of water fowls. He has made poultry his study through life and has been one of the most successful in the business in the entire country.

The Linwood Poultry yards are situated on a choice farm of one hundred and sixty-four acres which adjoin the corporation limits of the village of New London. This farm is not only supplied with all conveniences for the conduct of his business, but is furnished with all modern improvements and is most attractive in its appearance. It was upon this farm that Mr. McClave was born and reared and he now owns and occupies the property. Here he began business in a small way but by careful study, close application and experience he has attained to prominence in his chosen field of labor. He also has a fine apiary of Italian bees and thoroughly understands the work of the apiarist, while in general farming he is also equally successful. He was formerly president of the American Poultry Association and holds a life membership therein, and is president of the Ohio branch of the American Poultry Association. This organization draws its members from the United States, Canada and the insular possessions of this country.

On the 15th of October, 1895, Mr. McClave was married to Miss Lucy Copland, who was born in Butler, Richland county, Ohio, August 28, 1869, a

daughter of Samuel and Mary Copland. They have two children, C. Howard, born January 12, 1901; and Eugene W., born September 9, 1904. In community affairs Mr. McClave is interested and has served as township trustee for nine years. He was also one of the organizers of the Savings & Loan Banking Company, of New London, and was its first vice-president until 1909. In January, 1909, he was elected to the presidency and is also one of its directors. His name is an honored one in financial circles of the county. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for the past five years he has given tangible evidence of his devotion to the cause of public education as an earnest and effective member of the school board. His life has at all times been honorable and upright and his fidelity to manly principles which never seek nor require disguise have made him one of Huron county's valued citizens.

PETER BREIT.

Peter Breit, whose well improved farm of eighty-two acres in Sherman township gives evidence of the life of industry and enterprise led by the owner, has for many years been closely identified with the agricultural interests of Huron county. He is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to the United States, his birth having occurred in that country on the 16th of May, 1848. His parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (Clemans) Breit, spent their entire lives in the fatherland. Their children were six in number, namely: John, Joseph, Mary, Peter, Anna and Elizabeth.

Peter Breit obtained his education in the schools of his native land and was a young man of twenty-five years when in 1873 he set sail for the United States, having heard many favorable reports of the opportunities and advantages to be enjoyed in this country. After landing in New York he made his way at once to this state, taking up his abode in Sherman township, Huron county, where he has continued to reside to the present time. General agricultural pursuits have occupied his attention throughout his entire business career and he is now the owner of an excellent farm of eighty-two acres, which pays annual tribute to his care and labor in bounteous harvests. He is widely recognized as a prosperous and enterprising citizen of the community and as one whose success is entirely the result of his own well directed labor and capable management.

Mr. Breit has been married twice. Two weeks after landing in the United States he wedded Miss Catherine Ranker, a native of Germany; who made the voyage to this country on the same boat with her future husband. She was called to her final rest in December, 1903, leaving a family of five children, as follows: Matilda, Nora, Peter, Ceno and Dulla. In 1907 Mr. Breit was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Minnie (Weinstein) Burghardt, the widow of Jacob Burghardt and a daughter of Valentine and Minnie Weinstein, both of whom were natives of Germany. Mrs. Breit has a daughter, Freda, by her first husband.

In his political views Mr. Breit is a democrat, to the men and measures of which party he gives stalwart support. In religious belief he is a Catholic, while

his wife is a member of the Lutheran church. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he sought and in their wise utilization has gained a measure of success that entitles him to recognition among the substantial and representative citizens of the community in which he has now made his home for more than a third of a century.

JACOB F. SMITH.

One of the prosperous farmers of Huron county, Ohio, is Jacob F. Smith, who not only owns the one hundred and forty-eight and a half acres in Richmond township on which he lives, but owns in addition sixty-five acres in Sullivan township, Ashland county, and two hundred and forty-three acres in Alberta, Canada. A native of Ohio, he was born in Stark county, near Alliance, September 10, 1848, and is a son of John and Rebecca Smith. Of German stock, he had as grandparents on his father's side, Frederick and Elisabeth Smith, both of German birth, and on his mother's, Jacob and Margaret Fetterhoff, who were born in Pennsylvania, but were of German descent. His mother was born in Dauphine county, Pennsylvania, while his father was a native of Columbiana county, Ohio. In his early life, John Smith had learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for some years, but with advancing age he devoted himself to the cultivation of the soil and became a very prosperous farmer. Ten children were born to him and his wife: Elisabeth, whose first husband was Michael Merkel, and her second, William Singer; Jacob F., the subject of this sketch; James; Hannah, who married Orange Chapman; Mary, the wife of John Eschenbach; William; Loretta, who has passed away; Phoebe, who married Elzie Smith; Lydia, the wife of Irvin Smith; and Emma, the wife of Warren Klinker.

Jacob F. Smith was reared at home and received the rudiments of an English education in the district schools of Ashland county. During the years that he pursued his lessons, he also worked for his father on the farm, especially during the summer months, but after he had completed his education he learned the carpenter's trade. This occupation he followed for a number of years, and then he returned to farming, to which he has devoted all his energies since and which has in fact been his calling through the greater part of his life. The land in Richmond township is a fine tract, well improved with a good frame house, a commodious and well built barn and suitable cattle sheds. By hard work and care, he has brought the fields to a high degree of fertility and reaps from them yearly an abundant harvest as rich returns for his labor.

Mr. Smith was married to Miss Sophrona Fast on the 21st of January, 1871. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Jacob and Margaret Fast, who were members of the farming community of Ashland county, Ohio, but are now deceased, the father being in his ninety-second year when in 1909 death called him, the mother being eighty-four when a year before her husband's death, her life's work was finished. Mr. and Mrs. Fast were blessed with a large family, of whom Ephraim was the eldest; Elmyra, married Louis J. McCraig; Sophrona, became the wife

of Jacob F. Smith, of this review; Martha married John Thudium; Ruth, deceased, was the wife of George Curry; Mary, wedded Mentor Johnston; Jacob H., Jessie and George are the next in order of birth; and Sarah Isabel, became the wife of Fred Thudium. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith six children have been born: Charles, who married Alta Willoughby and has one daughter, Thelma Mae; William A., who has remained single; Jesse F., who married Emma Carrick and is the father of two children, Arnold LeRoy and Wayland Edmond; and Clarence and Mary, who unmarried, live at home.

Mr. Smith is a democrat in politics and while he has always evinced a healthy interest in public matters and in the welfare of his community, he has not sought office, but rather has declined several positions that have been offered him. He has however, rendered efficient services as justice of the peace, an office he filled through six terms, as assessor, as road supervisor and as a member of the school board. He was urged to accept the nomination for township treasurer, and although he could not be persuaded to accept the office, the mere fact that he was the expressed choice of the democratic voters of his locality, attests the high respect and esteem in which he is held as a man and as a public servant.

W. F. REYNOLDS.

W. F. Reynolds, whose life of unremitting activity along agricultural lines has been crowned with a gratifying degree of prosperity, was born on the 14th of September, 1856, in Richland county, Ohio, a son of William and Elizabeth (Snyder) Reynolds, both natives of New York. He is the second in order of birth in a family of three children born unto his parents, his sisters being Josephine and Emma Reynolds.

The period of the boyhood and youth of W. F. Reynolds was spent in the usual manner of the country lad, his education being acquired in the district schools, while during the summer seasons he assisted his father in the work of the farm, being early trained to habits of industry and economy which have formed the basis of the success which he now enjoys. He has made farming his life work and today he is the owner of one hundred and ten acres of land located in Ripley township, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation and which annually yield rich harvests. He has made a close study of agriculture and is methodical, systematic and progressive, so that he is numbered among the substantial and successful farmers in his section of the township.

In 1883 Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Feighner, who was born in 1857 and was the eldest in a family of six children born unto Solomon and Sarah Matilda (Weisner) Feighner, the others being John, Emma, Cinderella, Harriett and Katie. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have become the parents of ten children, namely, Myrtle, George, Howard, Grace, Fred, Martha, Veribell, Willie, Elva and Carl. Mr. Reynolds and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church, the teachings of which form the guiding influence of their lives, while Mr. Reynolds is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and also the Sons of Veterans. In politics he gives his allegiance to the repub-

lican party, and although he has never cared to figure in public life, he is a strong advocate of every movement or measure calculated to advance the public good. He holds friendship inviolable and has a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

NAPOLEON ROBINSON.

Among the honored veterans of the Civil war who still survives is Napoleon Robinson, a prosperous and progressive farmer of Huron county, operating a tract of land of two hundred and twenty-three acres in Greenfield township. His birth occurred on the 1st of January, 1844, in an old log house on this farm, his parents being Stephen and Emaline (Hanes) Robinson. The father, a native of Onondaga county, New York, was born in 1795 and came to Ohio alone when a small boy and settled upon a farm, the land still being largely covered with dense timber. He cleared a space and erected a log house, and something of the wildness of the district is indicated by the fact that he could stand in the door of his cabin and shoot deer. He immediately began to remove the timber and improve the land, and it was not long before, by indefatigable industry and untiring perseverance, he had brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. He continued to make this farm his place of residence throughout his remaining years, and in the year 1875, he passed away in the faith of the Baptist church. His wife, who was born near Rutland, Vermont, in 1801, came to Ohio with her parents, Nathaniel and Mary Hanes, when quite young, the family home being established in Greenfield township. She was called to her final rest in 1888. In their family, were twelve children, namely: Maria, the deceased wife of Vernon Westcott, of California; H. K., deceased; Homer, who has also passed away; Jerome, who was killed at the battle of Chancellorsville, being a member of Company I, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry; Nancy Ann, who was killed by a bolt of lightning striking a tree, a piece of which flew through the window and struck her; Caroline, the wife of Hiram R. Wright, of Kansas; Geneva, who married Charles Paul, of Kansas; Hannah, deceased; Napoleon, of this review; Fidelia, who became the wife of Charles Miller, of California; and Mary F. and Anna T. E., twins, the former deceased and the latter the wife of John Warner, of Illinois.

Reared upon the old homestead where he was born, Napoleon Robinson has continued to make this place his home throughout his entire life. He attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education and also assisted in the work of the farm, early becoming familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the country lad. After laying aside his text-books he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until the year 1862, when, putting aside all personal considerations, he enlisted on the 15th of August as a soldier of Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He first went to the camp of instruction at Monroeville, Ohio, and then went to Virginia, there participating in several battles and skirmishes, being in the battles of the Shenandoah valley, under Sheridan and also taking part in the capture of Richmond. He was taken



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prisoner at High Bridge, Virginia, but in a few days was paroled, and later, he was taken prisoner the second time when in the hospital at Petersburg with measles and was again paroled. During his term of enlistment, he saw much active service and was mustered out at Camp Chase on the 15th of June, 1865, with a very creditable record for bravery and loyalty.

When the country no longer needed his services, Mr. Robinson returned home and has since devoted his attention to the further improvement and cultivation of his farm, which, under his careful supervision, has become one of the valuable and attractive farming properties in the township. He practices rotation of crops, makes a close study of the cereals best adapted to climate and soil and the proper cultivation of the same, and in his business is meeting with substantial success.

It was on the 28th of May, 1867, that Mr. Robinson was united in marriage to Miss Anna White, a daughter of Oscar and Maria (Lotton) White, of Greenfield township, and unto this union have been born three children, as follows: Henry Grant, residing in Peru township, who married Bertha Smith and has ten children, Mildred, Eva, Isabel, Stephen, Francis, Gladys, Naomi, Sylvia, Dorothy and Homer N., and one who passed away in infancy; and May E., who died at the age of seventeen months. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Robinson has been a stalwart supporter of the republican party and has served in various minor offices. He has filled the office of school director and is deeply and helpfully interested in the cause of education. A man of intense public spirit, he has at all times remained as faithful to his country in times of peace as when he followed the old flag upon southern battlefields. He keeps up pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic and is one of the valued and representative citizens of Huron county.

FRANK BURRAS.

Among the native sons of Huron county who are meeting with success along agricultural lines is Frank Burras, who was born in Fairfield township, on the 22d of April, 1845, and is a son of Reuben and Sallie (Standish) Burras. The father originally came from the east, settling in Ohio, where he continued to make his residence until his death. In his family were the following children: Frank, Oscar, Edgar, Reuben S., Charles Peleg, and Dorr.

Spending the period of his boyhood and youth amid the scenes and environments of rural life, Frank Burras attended the district schools in the acquirement of his education, and remained upon his father's farm, assisting in the work of the fields, until he attained his majority. He had early become familiar with the duties that fall to the lot of the country lad, and his decision was therefore a wise one when, entering upon business life for himself, he chose as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared. He has since been continuously engaged in agricultural pursuits and now carries on general farming upon a farm of two hundred acres located in Fairfield township. He devotes much of his time to the raising of sheep, having on hand at the present time about two hundred

head, which he keeps mainly for the purpose of selling the wool. His farm, with the exception of eighty acres, which is now one of the well improved properties of the community, was bought and paid for almost entirely from the proceeds of his sheep raising. He is progressive and up-to-date in his business methods and his well directed energy and enterprise are meeting with most gratifying success. The life history of Mr. Burras is well known to the residents of Fairfield township, where his entire life has been spent and where he has gained an extensive circle of acquaintances and many warm friends.

WILLIAM H. CHAPIN.

William H. Chapin, a substantial farmer of New London township, Ohio, was born July 13, 1848, on the farm where he now lives, and in a home but a few feet removed from the place now occupied by his present residence. He is the son of Daniel L. and Pamela (McIntire) Chapin. The father was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, June 17, 1798, and shortly after his marriage came to Ohio. At Dover, where he settled, his wife died, and he married Miss Pamela McIntire, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York. In 1845, Mr. and Mrs. Chapin removed to New London township, locating on the farm their son now occupies. The homestead originally contained only fifty acres, but Mr. Chapin was soon able to add twenty to it, making it an excellent property. He was a man of good education and many attainments and before coming to Ohio, had taught school for a number of years in the east. He was the father of three sons. Samuel, the youngest, died at the age of nineteen, but Eliphalet and William H. are still living. Mr. Chapin died in September, 1885, and his widow on the 22d of February following. Both are buried in the cemetery at New London.

William H. Chapin spent his youth, and in fact his whole life, on his present farm. In the district schools of the township he received his education. In 1881, he brought his wife to the home place, continuing to make it his residence and engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has been a hard and thrifty worker and has added to the inherited land until it has now an extent of one hundred and twenty-nine and one half acres, under the best cultivation and producing richly. In his stock business also he has been very successful. When called upon to exercise his right of franchise, Mr. Chapin gives his support to the republican party, and though he is not averse to giving his services to the people, he has not taken an active part in political affairs. For a few years, he held the position of road supervisor and has also served on the school board, in both of which capacities he gave satisfaction to his constituents.

On the 16th of March, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Chapin and Miss Samantha Ward, a daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Stone) Ward. About 1855, Mr. Ward, with his family, came from New York state to New London township, where he engaged in farming until his death a few years ago. His two sons, Jonathan and Hiram, served in the war of the Rebellion, the latter dying at Beverly, Virginia, from the effects of a wound received in the battle of Allegheny, Virginia. Jonathan Ward served in the Twelfth Ohio Battery to the

close of the war and is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Chapin became the parents of two children: Homer, who died in infancy; and Clara M., a young girl of eighteen years, who graduated from the New London high school in 1908. She is an accomplished young woman and makes her home with her father. Mrs. Chapin passed away April 24, 1898.

Mr. Chapin professes allegiance to no religious denomination, but is a believer in churches and the good they render to the community. His own life, upright and Christian in the broader sense, he guides by the golden rule, putting this precept into practice daily. A man of wide culture, he has traveled through sixteen of the states of the Union and has visited most of the large cities of this realm, save those on the Pacific slope. He is able to form an intelligent idea of public affairs and conditions and takes an acute interest in the things that concern the welfare of the township and county, is an advocate of progress and the judicious expenditure of the public funds, and is a man who makes his influence felt by those around him.

LEVANT W. GRIFFIN.

Levant W. Griffin, a farmer of New London township, Huron county, Ohio, was born in Greenwich township, this county, May 15, 1861, a son of Orin S and Lucinda (Redfield) Griffin. The grandparents, Robert and Mariah (St. John) Griffin, came with their respective parents from New York state and were married in Huron county, where Orin S. Griffin was born and reared. He followed farming for some time, but was a man of liberal education, who for a period of thirty years was a popular and successful teacher in the schools of this county. For many years he lived in Greenwich township, but in 1885, having been elected county treasurer, he moved to Norwalk, where he resided until his death. He served in that county office for two terms, or four years, and then engaged in various enterprises, until he decided to retire from the active pursuit of business and enjoy the comforts to which his long and active life had entitled him. In May, 1906, he passed away and was mourned by all classes of people as a man of fine character and sterling integrity. His wife, who had come to Huron county an orphan of fifteen years, from Jackson, Michigan, had died in January, 1902. Husband and wife were buried in Woodland cemetery, Norwalk.

Levant W. Griffin grew to manhood on the home farm under the guidance of his parents and attended the public schools of Greenwich village, working around home while he pursued his studies. For one year after completing his education, Mr. Griffin taught school, and then, after his marriage, engaged in farming on the old home place, to which he had brought his bride. In 1892, he removed to Norwalk, where he was employed as book-keeper with Sprague & French. The following year he was engaged in the same capacity by Price & Stewart, a real estate and insurance firm, with whom he remained until 1895, when failing health compelled him to forsake the confining work of an office. He then removed to New London township and engaged in farming. His land consists

of fifty acres, and while it is suited for general farming, he makes a specialty of potatoes and wheat.

On the 29th of November, 1884, Mr. Griffin was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Miller, a daughter of John and Sarah (Jones) Miller, of Fairfield township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Miller were English born, and after their marriage came with their respective families to America about 1850. Mr. Miller settled first in Norwalk, where he remained for three years, and then bought a farm in Fairfield township, on which he lived the remainder of his life. He died in October 1895, and his widow now lives upon the home place. To Mr. and Mrs. Griffin were born seven children, two daughters and five sons, all of whom are living. They are Claire, Vernon, Robert, Bernice, Kenneth, Christine and Howard. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take an active part in church and Sunday school work.

In politics Mr. Griffin votes with the republican party and is interested and well informed on all matters concerning the people. As road supervisor and a member of the school board, he has rendered the citizens of the township valuable service through a considerable number of years, for he is a public-spirited man, of high principles and progressive in his ideas. His home life is elevating, and his house abounds in good literature, both standard and current. In the one organization to which he belongs, the National Union, Mr. Griffin holds the position of deputy.

CHESTER B. BROOKS.

Chester B. Brooks, one of the extensive land-owners of Fairfield township, where he is successfully engaged in general farming, is one of Huron county's native sons, his birth occurring in Peru township on the 6th of January, 1856. He is a son of Philo and Catherine (Noggle) Brooks, natives of Vermont and Ohio, respectively. The father, who was born in Windsor in 1811, came with his parents to Ohio in 1817, while the mother was born in Greenfield township, Huron county, in 1823. In their family were the following children: Helen, Homer, Virgil, Melvin and Chester.

The early life of Chester B. Brooks was passed under the parental roof, and he assisted his father in operating the home farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting. He later took up farming on his own account, and that his early training was thorough and comprehensive is indicated in the fact that he has since become very successful in his undertaking. As the years have passed his property holdings have increased until today he owns four hundred and twenty-five acres of fine land in four separate farms, each of which is under a high state of cultivation. He also engages to some extent in stock raising and his two branches of business are proving most gratifying sources of remuneration to him.

Mr. Brooks was married, on the 12th of October, 1876, to Miss Ida Jennings, a native of Fairfield, Connecticut, and a daughter of Gresham and Polly (Wheeler) Jennings. She was born in 1858, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children: Anna M. Lee and Stanley Virgil. The parents are members of

the Congregational church, and their lives are at all times in harmony with the teachings thereof. They are highly respected in the community in which they reside, while Mr. Brooks has gained many friends in Huron county, wherein his entire life has been passed, and the success which he has attained along business lines together with his honorable and upright manhood rank him among the prominent and representative citizens of Fairfield township.

WILBER G. FERVER, M. D.

Dr. Wilber G. Ferver has gained recognition as one of the able and successful physicians of Huron county and by his labors, his high professional attainments and his sterling characteristics has justified the respect and confidence in which he is held by medical fraternity and the local public. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born on the 22d of February, 1859, in New Castle, that state, a son of William and Eliza (Greer) Ferver, both of whom spent their last days in the Keystone state, the father passing away July 7, 1892, while the mother's death occurred July 8, 1898. In their family were six children, namely; Nancy Y., Samuel C., Elizabeth, William W., Wilber G. and Charles H., all of whom have passed away with the exception of Nancy and Wilber G. The father was a prosperous and successful farmer and an extensive land-owner and it was his wish that his sons should follow the occupation to which they had been reared, starting out in their business career on a farm which he himself should finish.

Wilber G. Ferver, whose name introduces this review, however, was prompted to a professional rather than an agricultural life. His boyhood and youth were passed on his father's farm, his early education being acquired in country district schools, pursuing his studies in the "old brick schoolhouse on the hill." He later supplemented this training by a course in the Edinburg State Normal school of Pennsylvania and Alleghney College at Meadville, that state, and with his training as a substantial foundation upon which to base his professional studies, he pursued a course at the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, graduating therefrom in 1884. He first located for practice in Greenfield, Pennsylvania, where he remained for two and a half years, and then, in 1887, he opened an office in Wakeman, Ohio, where he has continued to engage in the practice of his profession ever since. He is progressive in his methods, keeping abreast at all times with the advancement that is being made in the profession, while his excellent training and superior skill have brought to him not only success in his calling, but have gained for him high rank in the medical circles of this county, among the people and the profession alike. Aside from an extensive private practice, Dr. Ferver is examining physician for twelve or more of the best old line life insurance companies, which fact testifies to the high place he occupies in the community. He is a member of the Ohio State Medical Association and of the Huron County Medical Association, and frequently reads papers before the meetings of the latter society, his opinions being received at all times with interests by the members of the medical fraternity. Aside from his professional duties, he is also interested in the oil business, being now the president of the

Wakeman Oil Company, incorporated under the laws of West Virginia and operating in the oil fields of Indiana.

On the 15th of June, 1885, Dr. Ferver was united in marriage to Miss Emma V. Goodge, a daughter of Henry and Nancy (Coover) Goodge, of Poland, Ohio. Mr. Goodge was a carpenter and builder by trade and occupied a very high place in the community. He and his wife still survive and make their home in Youngstown, Ohio.

Aside from the success which he has attained in professional circles, Dr. Ferver has become widely known in the political ranks of this county, being a staunch republican and most actively and helpfully interested in the public affairs of Wakeman. He is a member of the republican central committee and has frequently served as a delegate to the district and county conventions. He has been for several years and is now clerk of Wakeman township and is an excellent official. Loyal and public-spirited in his citizenship to a marked degree, he is a firm believer in public improvements of all kinds, being especially strong in his advocacy of good roads, good public buildings and good schools, while every movement calculated to advance the best interests of the community at large, receives his hearty endorsement. He is also well known in fraternal circles, holding membership in Gibson Lodge, No. 301, F. & A. M. of Wakeman in which he is a past master and senior warden, and is a Royal Arch Mason, while he also occupies the office of king in the chapter. He likewise is a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Maccabees and is examining physician for both of these orders. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church and are interested in all of the various phases of church work, the Doctor being treasurer of the church for twelve years. He is very fond of a good horse and has bred some very fine specimens, while he is considered an excellent judge of an animal and knows a good horse as far as he can see one. This is his chief pastime and forms his principal source of recreation and relaxation from the strenuous duties of his profession. He has at all times recognized the obligations that rest upon him in his chosen calling and has, in the course of a successful business and professional career, given evidence of the possession of those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard. A gentleman of learning and culture, he recognizes the truth of the universal brotherhood of mankind.

JOHN RINGLEIN.

Among the German-American citizens of Huron county who are meeting with success along agricultural lines is John Ringlein, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and forty-five acres of land in Sherman township. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, October 17, 1826, a son of Andrew and Eva (Snyder) Ringlein. The father's death occurred in the fatherland and in 1845, when nineteen years of age, John Ringlein, accompanied by his mother, came to the new world, seeking the broader business opportunities here offered. He landed in Baltimore and immediately came west, locating first in Peru township, Huron

county. There he worked on a farm as a farm hand for two years and then went to Norwalk, where he resided for twenty-three years, being engaged in various pursuits during that period. That he was faithful, industrious and capable is indicated by the fact that during twenty-one years of that time he was employed by one man, Milton Goodnor, on his farm. Later, he came to Sherman township, where he had previously purchased seventy-five acres of land from a Mr. McKenzie, and began farming on his own account. He at once directed his energies toward the further cultivation and development of his farm, and it was not long before his fields were returning excellent crops. As he gathered his harvests, for which he found a ready sale on the market, and his financial resources were thus increased, he added to his property from time to time, first purchasing forty-one acres of land from Eli Horner and later thirty acres more from Miller Brothers, so that today his property consists of one hundred and forty-five acres, all well improved and cultivated. He carries on his agricultural pursuits along practical and progressive lines and is meeting with most gratifying success.

In 1852 Mr. Ringlein was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Waaheit, a daughter of John and Barbara Waaheit, both natives of Germany, where their entire lives were spent. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ringlein were born the following children: Barbara, the wife of Daniel Miller; William; Andrew; Joseph; Frank; Aloise; Mary, who married John Wester, deceased; and Rosa, the wife of William Hafner. The family are all members of the Catholic church and are well known and highly respected throughout the community.

In politics Mr. Ringlein is a staunch democrat and has served as road supervisor and school director, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He has never found occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for in this country of broad opportunity, where success comes as the sure reward of earnest labor and industry, he has won a gratifying degree of prosperity and is now comfortably situated in life.

HENRY W. CARPENTER.

Henry W. Carpenter, who follows the occupation of a carpenter and joiner and at the same time operates a farm of forty-one and one-half acres in New London township, was born on the 22d of May, 1847, a son of Henry F. and Esther M. (Sprague) Carpenter, the former a native of Neversink, New York, born in 1811, while the latter's birth occurred in Troy, New York. The paternal grandfather, Robert Carpenter, when in his twenties, came from England to New York in company with two brothers, Timothy and Seth. Timothy Carpenter purchased a farm on Long Island and later participated in the Revolutionary war, during which time he is supposed to have been killed as nothing was ever heard of him thereafter. Seth Carpenter located at Kingston, New York, while Robert came to Ohio in 1822, locating upon a farm of seven hundred acres, which he purchased at five shillings per acre. He was a carpenter and wagon maker by trade and continued to engage in that occupation, while at the same time he cleared his land and devoted some time also to farming, being thus engaged at the time of his death,

which occurred in 1862. Upon his father's farm Henry F. Carpenter, the father of our subject, was reared, and he also took up general farming as an occupation. In 1834, he purchased the farm of which the property of our subject was then a part and continued to make it his home until his death in June, 1885. In his family were seven children, those still living being: Louisa M. Ketchum, J. R. Carpenter and Henry W. Carpenter. The deceased are: W. W., W. J., O. E., and Mary A.

Henry W. Carpenter, whose name introduces this review, was reared under the parental roof and acquired his education in the district schools of New London township, passing through consecutive grades until he was graduated in due course of time. He then learned the occupation of a carpenter and joiner and continued to follow his trade, while at the same time he carried on general farming, being thus connected at the present time. Upon the death of his father the old homestead was divided and he came into the possession of over forty acres of land, upon which he now makes his home. He is active, alert and capable in the transaction of his business and his various enterprises, which, being well managed, are proving to him sources of substantial and gratifying income. His fields are under a high state of cultivation, yielding good harvests in the autumn, while many structures throughout the community stand as monuments to his skill and ability as a carpenter.

The year 1875 witnessed the marriage of Mr. Carpenter to Miss Alice Searles, and unto this union have been born three children, Walter S., Arthur B. and Alice L. Walter S., the eldest son, is well known in New London township and has served for four terms as township assessor, during which time he has given a uniform satisfaction that augurs well for re-election.

Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter both attend the Methodist church although the grandparents were originally adherents of the Quaker faith. He is a stalwart republican in politics, and although he is deeply interested in the progress of the party and does all in his power to extend its influence, nevertheless he neither desires nor seeks office for himself, preferring to direct his entire energies to the conduct of his private affairs, which, carefully conducted, are proving a source of gratifying income to him. Having passed his entire life in New London township, he has become well known throughout this locality, and the fact that his circle of friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances indicate that his salient qualities are those which tend to inspire the confidence, respect and the good will of his fellowmen.

GEORGE A. BARBER.

The farming interests of Huron county find in George A. Barber a worthy representative and one who is meeting with success in his business enterprise. He was born in Sherman township, this county, January 30, 1856, and is a son of Samuel G. and Matilda (Maltby) Barber, the former a native of Schenectady county, New York, and the latter of Fremont, Ohio. The grandparents of our subject on the paternal side were Edward and Desire (Kenyon) Barber, while

his maternal grandfather was David Maltby. Both the Barber and Maltby families are of Scotch lineage, while the Barbers rank among the old pioneer settlers of Huron county. The family was founded in this portion of the state by Samuel G. Barber, the father of our subject, who came here when but seven years of age, and grew up with the county, being a witness of the work of transformation and improvement that has changed the forests of Ohio into richly cultivated fields.

Our subject has in his possession many interesting relics of the old pioneer days, one of especial interest being an Italian violin which is over two hundred years old. He also has the old gun that his grandfather brought with him from the east, and also a letter received by the Barbers in the early days, directed to this state and dated February 11, 1834. The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Matilda Maltby, had three brothers who went to Texas, where they were residing at the time of the Civil war. At the outbreak of hostilities the youngest brother espoused the cause of the Confederacy and became captain in the Louisiana Light Artillery. The eldest brother was a soldier in the Mexican war and under General Scott went from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, participating in all of the battles of that campaign. After the war he went to Galena, Illinois, and later became a friend and associate of General Grant. During the Civil war he was a brevet brigadier general and assisted in capturing his own brother at the surrender of Vicksburg. Later he sought parole for his brother and sent him back to the south. He sustained a wound at the battle of Fort Donelson which, however, was not fatal. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Barber were the following children: Dora, George, Bayard, Jasper and Grace.

George A. Barber, of this review, spent the period of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, early being trained to the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. When not busy with the work in the fields he attended the district schools and thus acquired a good knowledge of the common English branches. Later he pursued a course of study during the years 1877-1880, in the Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, and after leaving that institution he was engaged in teaching for about eighteen years. During that period his identification with educational interests was a source of benefit to the communities in which he labored for he proved himself a most competent and able instructor, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. Subsequently, however, he withdrew from that profession and became identified with agricultural interests, purchasing a farm in Fairfield township. He has resided upon this farm for about fourteen years, and it is now one of the well improved and valuable properties in the township. He has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, has introduced upon the place all the accessories and equipment necessary to facilitate farm labor, and his well directed industry and energy, which are the salient elements in his career, are winning for him a gratifying measure of prosperity.

It was on the 7th of April, 1885, that Mr. Barber was united in marriage to Miss Maud Pratt, who was born in October, 1864, and is a daughter of Edwin D. and Elizabeth (Slyer) Pratt, natives of Huron county, Ohio, and East Liverpool, Medina county, this state, respectively. Her father, who was a son of

Nelson and Finette (Delano) Pratt, traces his ancestry back to the Mayflower. The Pratts were originally members of the Baptist church, but members of the family later joined the Mormon church and became stanch supporters of that creed. Hugh F. Barber, who was born on the 18th of May, 1891, is the only child born unto Mr. and Mrs. George Barber. The parents are both members of the Universalist church, while fraternally Mr. Barber is connected with the Masons at North Fairfield, Ohio. He is public-spirited in his citizenship, doing all in his power to promote the general welfare, while his influence and activity are always upon the side of progress, reform, improvement and advancement. These qualities constitute him a citizen of worth in the community where he has resided throughout his lifetime and where he has acquired an extensive circle of warm friends.

CHARLES W. HOPKINS.

Charles W. Hopkins, one of the pioneer residents of Huron county, where he has resided for more than sixty years, is one of the successful and influential agriculturists of the district in which he lives, his farm of eighty acres, situated in Ripley township, being one of the finest and best improved properties of the county. He was born in New Jersey on the 14th of March, 1838, and on the paternal side traces his ancestry back to a Mr. Hopkins who came to America in the Mayflower, founding the family in Massachusetts. His parents were John and Levica (Mott) Hopkins, the former a native of Massachusetts, where his birth occurred in 1807, while the latter was born in New Jersey in 1815. The father was the eldest in a family of eight children born unto Joshua Hopkins, the others being Orpha, Willard, Juliana, Sarah Hane, Amanda, Joshua and Samuel. The mother was a daughter of Henry Mott and the eldest of six children, the others being as follows, Allen, Job, Henry, Elizabeth and Marietta. John Hopkins, who came to Ohio at an early date, was among the pioneer settlers of Huron county and for many years his efforts were potent factors in the work of improvement and development which was carried on within its borders. He passed away in 1904 at the very remarkable age of ninety-seven years. His family consisted of the following: Charles W., Elizabeth, James Henry, John Norris and Levica, while another child, whose name was also James Henry, was burned to death in infancy.

Charles W. Hopkins was a little lad of five years when he came with his parents to Ohio, and here on his father's farm he was reared to manhood, spending the period of his boyhood and youth in much the usual manner of farm lads of that time. He shared with the other members of the household the privations and experiences of life in a frontier district and was early trained to habits of industry and economy. He has devoted his entire life to farming and kindred pursuits, and throughout his business career his efforts have been actuated by a spirit of industry, perseverance and close application that has won its just reward in a substantial and gratifying success which is today his. He owns eighty acres of excellent land which constitutes one of the finest farming properties in Huron

county, and everything about his place indicates that he is in touch with the modern spirit of progress which is manifest in agricultural lines. In connection with his farming he engages to some extent in stock-raising, making a specialty of breeding horses, and both branches of his business—the raising of grain and the raising of stock—are proving profitable sources of revenue to him.

It was on the 28th of September, 1862, that Mr. Hopkins was united in marriage to Miss Ann Mitchell, a native of Michigan, born March 10, 1842. She was a daughter of Moses M. and Hulda (Hale) Mitchell and a sister of Matilda, Lorana, Ada and James Mitchell. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins was blessed with nine children, namely: Ada, Rosella, Jennie, Artie, Maud, Lizzie, James, Fred and Roy. After the death of his first wife Mr. Hopkins was again married, his second union being with Miss Emma Reeves Lincoln, a daughter of James Lincoln, and unto them were born four sons: Frank, Carl, Lincoln and Leland. The parents are members of the Congregational church, of which Mr. Hopkins is a deacon, and they are greatly interested in the various phases of church work.

In politics Mr. Hopkins gives his allegiance to the republican party and on that ticket served as postmaster at Carson, Ohio, for fourteen years. He can well remember the time when dense forests covered much of the district and wild animals were seen in abundance. During the intervening years he has watched the steady growth and advancement of the community, has seen much of the land cleared and converted into productive fields and has witnessed the log cabin giving place to the modern and substantial residence, while in this work of improvement he has taken a willing part, at all times rejoicing in the progress which has been made and doing all in his power to advance the best interests of the community. Although he has now passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, he nevertheless remains an active factor in life's work and is recognized as one of the substantial, influential and valuable citizens of Huron county.

EDWIN F. CHILDS.

Edwin F. Childs, a successful and enterprising farmer and stockman of Ripley township, owning and operating seventy-one acres of fine land, was born on the 1st of October, 1862, in Greenfield township, Huron county, his parents being George L. and Ann (Miller) Childs. The father, who was a native of Massachusetts, was born in Worcester in 1826, a son of Charles Childs, and was the second eldest in a family of four sons, his brothers being Otis, Frank and Thomas. The mother, who was a daughter of William Miller, was born in Pennsylvania in 1829 and was a sister of Jacob and Charlotte Miller. George T. Childs and his wife became the parents of seven children: Edwin F., Henry, William C., Bert, Julia, Anna and Lizzie.

Under the parental roof Edwin F. Childs was reared to manhood and at the usual age was sent as a pupil to the district schools, wherein he gained a good knowledge of the English language. During the periods of vacation he assisted

in the work of the home farm, early becoming familiar with the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturalist, and he remained at home, giving his father the benefit of his aid, until he attained his majority, when he started out in the business world for himself. Wisely choosing the occupation to which he had been reared as a life work, he has since directed his energies toward agricultural and kindred pursuits, and is today one of the substantial and progressive farmers of his section of the county. He and his brother William own a tract of land in Ripley township consisting of seventy-one acres of fine farming land, which constitutes one of the desirable and valuable properties of the township, and altogether they own nearly twelve hundred acres. In connection with farming interests they give considerable attention to general stock-dealing and in both branches of their business are meeting with signal success, enjoying a substantial income therefrom.

Mr. Childs has been twice married. On the 24th of March, 1886, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Miller, who was born on the 16th of December, 1863, and was the eldest daughter of William and Charlotte (Atyeo) Miller, in whose family were three children, the others being Oliver and Jennie. Unto this union was born one child, Charlotte, her birth occurring on the 29th of November, 1899. After the death of his first wife Mr. Childs wedded Miss Mary Meacham, the ceremony being celebrated on the 31st of May, 1908. Mrs. Childs was born July 3, 1875, in Townsend township, and is a daughter of Lafayette Meacham.

The religious views of Mr. Childs are indicated in his membership in the Christian church, of which he is serving as trustee, while in politics he gives stanch allegiance to the republican party, although he does not seek nor desire public office, desiring to concentrate his time and attention upon the duties of his business affairs, which, capably conducted, are proving a source of most gratifying success. Mr. Childs has spent his entire life within the borders of Huron county, where he has made many warm friends, who entertain for him high regard and esteem because of his many sterling traits of character.

JOSEPH I. HINKLEY.

Joseph I. Hinkley, who passed away on the 29th of May, 1908, was for many years actively and successfully identified with the building interests of Huron county as a carpenter and contractor. His birth occurred in Tompkins county, New York, on the 18th of November, 1828, and when four years of age he was brought by his parents to Huron county, Ohio, the family home being established in Ripley township, where he resided for a number of years. He obtained his education in the district schools and when he had attained his majority started out in life on his own account, working by the month as a carpenter and joiner. He conducted a most extensive business as a builder of houses and also erected several churches, many important contracts being awarded him in recognition of his excellent executive ability and reliable methods. His capable management and keen discrimination were valuable factors in the success which attended his undertakings



MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH I. HINKLEY

and he was one of the county's most highly respected citizens, being honored by all who knew him because of his unfaltering integrity and honorable, upright principles. On leaving Ripley township he made his home in Fitchville for a time and in 1864 bought a farm of sixty-four acres, to which he subsequently added by additional purchases until it embraced three hundred acres of rich and productive land. He was well known and highly esteemed throughout Huron county as one of its most prominent and worthy residents and his loss was deeply felt when he was called to his final rest in May, 1908.

In 1856 Mr. Hinkley was united in marriage to Miss Emeline Tanner, who was born in Norwich township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 10th of July, 1838. Her father, Elisha D. Tanner, who was a native of Herkimer county, New York, passed away on the 13th of January, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Hinkley became the parents of eleven children. Luzerne H. and Laverne H., twins, were born on the 18th of October, 1857. The former is now a practicing physician of Greenspring, Ohio, but the latter, who gave her hand in marriage to Zuriel Curtis, died on the 4th of May, 1887. The record of the other children is as follows: Horace C., who was born April 17, 1859, and passed away December 22, 1887; Elisha D., born July 15, 1860, who is practicing dentistry at Denver, Colorado; Burdette C., born February 2, 1862, who is likewise a dentist by profession and is dean of the college at Keokuk, Iowa; Laura E., whose birth occurred on the 28th of April, 1863; Benjamin H., born November 29, 1867, who was called to his final rest on the 16th of May, 1908; Junia J., who was born on the 15th of August, 1871; Lillian L., born August 10, 1872, who passed away March 4, 1875; Mrs. Adeline A. Boardman, whose birth occurred June 16, 1876; and French F., born April 2, 1879, who died on the 27th of September, 1881.

Mr. Hinkley fully realized the value of good mental training as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties and all of his children enjoyed excellent educational advantages. The period of his residence in this county covered more than three-fourths of a century and that his life in its varied relations was at all times worthy of emulation and commendation is indicated by the fact that he was best loved where best known. He was a most devoted and loving husband and father and a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist church. Kind hearted and liberal, the poor and needy found in him a friend whose sympathy manifested itself in material assistance.

DANIEL WHITE.

Daniel White, a successful farmer and apiarist of New London township, and one of the township's prominent and influential citizens, was born June 3, 1841, in Yates county, New York, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Sutfin) White. The paternal grandfather's name was also Daniel, and this cognomen has been borne by a son of the family for as many generations of which there is any record. This branch of the White family came to Ohio in 1846, locating in Huron. Subsequently they made the journey from there to New London by wagon, and here took up their residence, this being their home ever since. At

the time of their advent the country in the neighborhood of New London was covered with dense forests, and the work of clearing had to be accomplished before any farming could be attempted. In this work both our subject and his sister Sarah, Mr. White's only children, assisted, and both are living to tell of the many hardships encountered and overcome. Mr. White's first wife died in 1863, and on the 6th of September of the following year he married Mrs. Sarah S. Gilbert, the widow of Titus Gilbert and the daughter of Joel and Polly (Benham) Parker. The Parkers came from Connecticut to Ohio at a very early day and were very active in promoting the development of this new land. Mr. White died January 18, 1877, a man highly respected by all who knew him, for he was industrious and frugal and of high character. His daughter, Sarah, married Llewellyn Gilbert, and is now a widow residing in Galion, Ohio.

Daniel White of this review, grew up at home, assisting in the work of clearing the soil and then in cultivating it. When the call for troops came at the beginning of the Civil war, he enlisted, August 1, 1861, in Battery B, First Ohio Light Artillery, for a period of three years, which was then thought to cover the whole length of the war. On January 4, 1864, he was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, and then, without leaving the line, was mustered in again, so that there was no break in the period of his service to his country until the close of the war. Although he was offered several promotions he preferred to remain a private, taking a certain pride in fighting valiantly in the ranks. His battery was attached to the Armies of the Tennessee and the Cumberland and participated in the hard fighting that fell to the share of those armies. The battery's first encounter was at Wild Cat Run, called a battle then, but in the light of subsequent events amounting to little more than a skirmish. Later it took part in the engagements at Stone River, Pellville, Kentucky, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and the subsequent encounters of the army. Although under fire so many times, Mr. White escaped without a wound and without seeing the inside of a prison, a hospital or a guardhouse. On the 22d of July, 1865, he was mustered out of the service at Cleveland, Ohio, and returned to the life of a private citizen. He came to New London, which has since been his home, and for the first five years was employed as a stationary engineer. In 1871, after his marriage, he took up farming, settling upon thirty acres of land belonging to his father-in-law. After a few years he engaged in bee culture, and for the past thirty-five years has been known in the county as one of the most successful men in this line of work. He went about it in a most thorough manner, studying the habits of the bees, their manner of work, the question of their food, just as a farmer makes a study of his soil and the rotation of crops so that he can obtain the best results from the land at his command. Mr. White is able as a result of this scientific and intelligent culture, to get from his bees a generous gift, and in the years that have come and gone they have produced tons of honey. About thirty years ago Mr. White undertook the cultivation of strawberries and at present his crop averages probably one thousand bushels. He makes a specialty of late varieties and in consequence his berries command the highest prices in the markets after the regular supply has been exhausted.

On the 3d of March, 1871, Mr. White was married to Miss Julia E. Gilbert, a daughter of Titus and Sarah (Parker) Gilbert. The Gilberts came to Ohio

in 1852, from Oneida county, New York, and settled in New London township, Huron county, on the farm on which Mr. and Mrs. White now live. Mr. Gilbert was a miller by trade and on coming here intended starting a mill but lived only a year and a half after his arrival, leaving a widow and eight children. Of these Mrs. White is the youngest; Caroline, Llewellyn and Sarah have died; and Martha, Frank, Andrus and Byron are living. The sons followed in their father's footsteps, became millers and attained success and prosperity in their line of work. Mrs. Gilbert died January 25, 1881, a woman well beloved by all who knew her. To Mr. and Mrs. White there have been born four children: Bertha, the wife of Blake Andrews; Daisy, who married Clyde E. Ward, of New London; Daniel F., a resident of Detroit, Michigan, and Gilbert, of New London, Ohio.

In politics Mr. White is a republican and takes an active part in all party matters, frequently having served on the county republican committee, and almost regularly a delegate to county, district and state conventions. In the public affairs of the township he has also taken part, having served as town assessor for seven years, and now trustee of New London township, a position he has held for many years. During the years his children were in school he served as a member of the school board. He belongs to Carnation Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and is one of its charter members. In Runyon Post, No. 47, G. A. R., he has been active and has frequently been its delegate to state and national encampments. A high degree of public spirit has ever distinguished his actions. He is a hard worker, progressive in his ideas and enjoys the satisfaction of seeing his family well settled in life. At his home, ever filled with good cheer, he dispenses a genial hospitality that is generally appreciated in the community.

DANIEL MAHL.

The agricultural pursuits of Sherman township find a worthy representative in Daniel Mahl, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and eight acres. A native son of Huron county, he was born on the 21st of March, 1862, a son of John D. and Catherine (Shook) Mahl, natives of Germany who early came to America and were married in this country. The father was a soldier in the German army, but after coming to the United States he took up the occupation of farming at first working for others by the month, but later on his own account. He purchased a tract of land which now comprises a part of the farm owned by the subject of this review. He and his wife became the parents of the following children: John; Jacob; Adam; Daniel; Catherine, the wife of Joseph Miller; Frank; Michael; Henry; Louisa; and Mary, deceased.

Daniel Mahl spent the days of his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, his time being divided between acquiring an education in the district schools and assisting in the work of the fields. At the age of sixteen, however, he laid aside his text-books and took up the occupation to which he was reared, and has since been continuously engaged in agricultural pursuits in Sherman township. He can remember when Huron county was mostly covered by timber and the trees

had to be cut down and the native growth removed before the work of improvement could be commenced. And then, after the land had been cleared, the work of cultivation was not easy, for he has seen the time when, during planting season, the soil was so scarce that he was obliged to carry dirt in his hat with which to cover the kernels of corn being planted. Undaunted, however, by any obstacles that blocked his path, Mr. Mahl persevered during the intervening years, until today as the result of untiring industry and indefatigable energy and perseverance he has a finely improved property, the fields annually yielding rich harvests.

On the 2d of July, 1896, Mr. Mahl was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Didion, a daughter of John J. and Rosella Didion, mention of whom is made on another page of this volume. This union was blessed with eight children, namely: Herman, born June 16, 1897; Ralph, born September 26, 1898; Carl, born March 4, 1900; Arnold, born October 24, 1901; Mary, born April 13, 1904; Irene, born March 12, 1906; Emma, born May 23, 1908; and Linus August, October 7, 1909. The family are members of the Catholic church, while politically Mr. Mahl is affiliated with the democratic party. He has never sought nor desired public office as the reward for party fealty, desiring rather to direct his entire energies and attention to his personal interests, which, capably managed, are proving a source of gratifying income to him. Having passed his entire life in Huron county he has gained an extensive circle of friends, and the fact that he is most liked where best known is an indication that his salient characteristics are such as to inspire the confidence and respect of his fellow men.

ADELBERT EUGENE HANVILLE.

Adelbert Eugene Hanville, who has been engaged in the operation of a sawmill in Huron county for almost forty years, is also a dealer in hardwood lumber and is recognized as one of the successful and progressive business men of the locality where he resides. A native of Corning, New York, he was born on the 17th of April, 1851, and is a son of C. W. and Mary Ann (Fowler) Hanville. The former, was born in Geneva, Cayuga county, New York, in 1826, while the latter was a native of Pennsylvania, born in the year 1831. After their marriage the parents resided for a time in Ulysses, Potter county, Pennsylvania, and later came to Ohio, where the father became identified with the lumber and sawmilling business at Ripley, Huron county. Subsequently he purchased a sawmill north of North Fairfield, which is now owned and operated by the subject of this review. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hanville were the following children: Adelbert Eugene, George W., Charles P., Delphene, Eva and Ella.

Adelbert Eugene Hanville, whose name introduces this record, spent the period of his boyhood and early youth in the east, attending the common schools in the acquirement of his education. He was fifteen years of age when, in 1866, he accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, and here he has since continued to make his home. He remained at home assisting his parents until 1870, when he purchased the mill from his father and has since continued to operate it.

The mill, which has been in existence for nearly seventy years, was burned down in 1899 but was rebuilt in the same year, and has been in continuous operation since. Mr. Hanville owns about twenty-two acres of land upon which the mill is situated. He has been very successful in his various enterprises inasmuch as they are proving a source of gratifying remuneration to him. He possesses good business ability and his close application and good management are the salient characteristics in the creditable measure of success which he now enjoys.

On the 1st of September, 1872, Mr. Hanville was united in marriage to Miss Ida E. Taylor, a daughter of Alexander and Eliza Ann (McCord) Taylor, of North Fairfield, Ohio. She was called to her final rest, however, on the 12th of October, 1875, and on the 31st of March, 1876, Mr. Hanville was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Ardella Ayers, a daughter of James and Eliza Ann Lamm Ayers, the former a native of Rome, Ashtabula county, Ohio, while the latter was born in Montgomery county, Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Ayers, who were southern people, came to the north during the Civil war as refugees, and in their family were six children, namely: Ella, John, Mary, Ada, Charles and Minnie. The second union of Mr. Hanville has been blessed with the following children: Earl, born on the 5th of February, 1880; Harry, born June 3, 1882; Iva, whose birth occurred on the 21st of September, 1884; Nellie, born September 5, 1887; Hattie, born on the 21st of November, 1889; and Geneva, on the 11th of July, 1893. All yet survive with the exception of Iva, who passed away on the 16th of August, 1907.

In politics Mr. Hanville is independent. He has been a member of the Fairfield township school board, the cause of education finding in him a stanch champion. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons at Fairfield and also holds membership with the Redmen. He is highly respected in the community in which he has resided for so many years, for he has ever led an upright, honest and honorable life, while in business affairs he has depended upon no fortunate combination of circumstances to aid him in his career, but has worked for the success which is now his, knowing that fortune favors those who labor persistently and guide their efforts by sound judgment.

ALFRED A. GATES.

No history of Huron county would be complete without mention of Alfred A. Gates, who was born in this county more than seventy years ago and has therefore been a witness to the changes which have been carried on within its borders during the last half century. He is, moreover, entitled to special mention in this volume from the fact that at the time of the Civil war, when the country was plunged into the darkest hour of her history, he was among the first to respond to her cry for aid, and throughout the four years of hostility served with a courage and loyalty that won for him a most creditable military record. Born on the 7th of May, 1836, in Huron county, he is a son of Gross and Abigail (Ames) Gates, the former born February 4, 1789, while the latter's birth occurred in New York on the 22d of September, 1784. In their family were the fol-

lowing children: Nora, born in 1816; Jane, born in 1818; Helen, in 1820; Charles, in 1824; Humphrey, in 1826; Abigail, in 1827; Thomas, in 1829; Cordilia, in 1832; William, in 1833; and Alfred, of this review.

Alfred A. Gates, whose name introduces this review, acquired his education in the district schools near his father's home and was reared on the old homestead farm, assisting his father in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting, so that when he started out to farm on his own account he was well equipped with a thorough knowledge of the best methods of agriculture. He has devoted his entire life to farming and as the years have gone by has prospered in his undertakings, being now the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of valuable land. This is all under a high state of cultivation and returns excellent crops each year as a reward for the care and labor bestowed upon the fields. He has made a close study of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, is methodical, systematic and progressive in his business, and is numbered among the substantial and successful farmers of his section of the county. Moreover his dealings with his fellowmen have ever been straightforward and honorable, so that his success is well merited.

The only interruption that came in his life of intense activity was at the time of the Civil war, when, in response to the call for troops, on the 1st of July, 1861, he enlisted as a member of Company E, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and fought valiantly and bravely in defense of his country. He saw much active service and was compelled to endure many dangers and hardships, for throughout the four years of his enlistment he was almost continuously at the front. Not once, however, did he waver in his allegiance to his country and at all times, whether on the lonely picket line or in the midst of battle, he remained loyal to the old flag and the cause which it represented. He participated in the following battles: Sugar Creek; Pea Ridge; Chickasaw Mountain; Arkansas Post; Black Bayou; Jackson; Champion Hills; Siege of Vicksburg; Clinton; Brandon; Look-out Mountain; Missionary Ridge; Ringgold; Resaca; New Hope Church; Kennesaw Mountain; Peach Tree Creek; Atlanta; and Bentonville. On the 25th of July, 1865, he was honorably discharged and with a creditable military record he returned home, again taking up his agricultural pursuits.

On the 8th of November, 1865, Mr. Gates was united in marriage to Miss Frances Paine, born July 1, 1840, a daughter of Ira and Lydia (Knowlton) Paine. Unto them were born three children: Gusta, Gross and Frank. After the death of his first wife Mr. Gates was again married, his second union being with Miss Belle Stewart, the wedding occurring on the 4th of June, 1873. Mrs. Gates was born April 25, 1851, and was a daughter of David C. and Mary (LaForce) Stewart, the former born in Ohio on January 1, 1825, while the latter's birth occurred on the 30th of January, 1832. She had one sister, Mary. Her grandfather on the paternal side was Galbraith Stewart, who was a prominent and well known judge of Ottawa county during its pioneer days. Mr. Gates is a member of the Congregational church, while his wife belongs to the Friends Society, of which she was pastor for over twenty years. They are people of the highest worth, whose excellent traits of character have gained them the esteem and regard of their many friends throughout the community. Mr. Gates gives loyal support to the republican party and for six years has been treasurer of the

township. He is preeminently a public-spirited man and in all matters of citizenship has remained as loyal to his country in times of peace as when fighting on southern battlefields.

JOEL E. SNYDER.

Joel E. Snyder, a prosperous farmer of New London township, Huron county, was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, March 16, 1850, and is a son of Andrew and Harriet (Eister) Snyder. He is of remotely Dutch descent and for several centuries members of the Snyder family have taken part in making the history of this land. In 1700 six brothers of the name came to America from Holland, three of whom settled in New York and three in Pennsylvania, one of the latter being Nicholas Snyder, the great-great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Several of the brothers participated in the American Revolution, some of their descendants served in the war of 1812, and those of the family who are living today play a not inconspicuous part in the affairs of their respective localities. Jacob Snyder, the grandfather of Joel E. Snyder, was a resident of Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, a prosperous farmer and a large land-owner. He had a family of thirteen children, ten sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to the age of seventy-six and several nearly reached the hundredth milestone, although Henry, who still lives in Northumberland county at the age of eighty-three, is the only survivor at present.

Andrew Snyder, the father of Joel E. Snyder, was the third from the youngest in the family of thirteen. He was a farmer and a county bridge constructor, and several of the substantial bridges and viaducts of Northumberland county were built by him or under his supervision. In April, 1866, he came to Ohio, settling in New London township, Huron county, where he pursued his farming with great success. He had a family of nineteen children by his first wife and three by a second; only eight of the nineteen, however, are alive today. They are Louisa, now Mrs. John Tonkinson, of Waverly, Nebraska; Emma, the wife of Samuel Kauffman, of Pratt, Kansas; Joel E.; Nathan and Adam, of New London township; Charles H., of Pratt, Kansas; Mary Jane, now Mrs. Edward Osborn, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; and Sarah Ann, the wife of Cleabert Lilly, of Pratt, Kansas. All the children have prospered in the business they have undertaken. Mr. Snyder's first wife died September, 1877, and when he himself died, January 17, 1908, he was buried by her side in the cemetery at East Ruggles. A good man and a strong man of high principles, the citizens of the county mourned his loss.

Joel E. Snyder grew up at home on his father's farm and received his education in the district schools of the county of his birth, and, after the family moved to Ohio, in the schools of New London township. In 1876 he entered upon his business career as a traveling salesman for harvesting machinery and other farm implements, his territory being the northern counties of Ohio. Three years later he engaged in farming, first, for a year upon his father's land. In the spring of 1881 he removed to New London, where he worked at the trade of

cabinetmaker, which he had learned in his youth, and for twelve years made a reputation for himself as a clever carpenter and skilful mechanic. In 1893 he again engaged in farming in New London township, and two years later purchased the farm which has since been his home. Here he carries on diversified agriculture, though he makes a specialty of potatoes and has given considerable attention to stock raising. The buildings on the land, including his own residence, are all modern and excellently constructed from his own designs and largely by his unassisted efforts. Mr. Snyder calls his place "Sand Creek," from the little creek that runs through his grounds and the quantities of sand of superior grade found there. He hauls hundreds of loads of this every year and from it derives a considerable revenue.

On the 2d of November, 1879, Mr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Carrie May Jewell, a daughter of James and Mary Jane (Ensign) Jewell. The parents are of English birth and are residents of Lorain county, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have been born two sons: Alton Carroll and Kenneth R. The elder married Miss Tessa Tynder and they have two children, Lillian and Eldred Martin. They live in New London. Kenneth R. lives at home and manages the farm, a responsibility for which he gave up his profession of teaching.

Mr. Snyder has always taken an active interest in public matters and is well informed on all questions before the people. His political sympathies are with the republican party, on whose ticket in New London township he has been elected to the office of real estate appraiser for 1910, a testimony of the high regard in which he is held by the substantial men of this locality. He belongs to no societies but his son Alton Carroll is a member of the New London Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Kenneth R. belongs to the Masonic lodge of the township. Both are fine young men. Mr. Snyder, with his wife, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has been for many years a class leader in the congregation and otherwise active in church and Sunday school work. He is, indeed, a fine citizen, public spirited, contributing to the progress and advancement of the community in which he lives.

AUGUSTUS L. COIT.

Augustus L. Coit, owning and operating an excellent farm of one hundred and twelve acres located in Fairfield township, Huron county, was born August 26, 1848, in New York city, a son of James L. and Elizabeth (Rodgers) Coit. The father was born in Connecticut on the 29th of July, 1815, while the mother, who was also born in the east, passed away when the subject of this sketch was very young. She was the mother of five children, namely: Eureka, William H., Augustus L., Eudora, and Mandora. The father was the second eldest in a family of four children born unto Elias L. and Phoebe (Brown) Coit, the others being Augustus T., Andrew Jackson and William E., two of whom were sailors.

Augustus L. Coit accompanied his parents to Ohio when very small and therefore almost his entire life has been passed within the borders of this state. He acquired his education in the district schools and remained at home, giving his

father the benefit of his assistance, until he reached manhood. When he entered business upon his own account he was first identified with the stone interests in Greenfield, operating a quarry at that place for nearly twenty years, and during this period he gained a creditable degree of success, his industry, enterprise and perseverance being salient elements in his prosperity. He later became connected with agricultural pursuits, purchasing the farm upon which he now resides, which has been in his possession for about six years. It consists of one hundred and twelve acres located in Fairfield township and is one of the desirable properties of the locality. He carries on general farming, practices rotation of crops, and makes a close study of the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting, and his efforts are proving most successful, returning to him a gratifying annual income.

The year 1877 witnessed the marriage of Mr. Coit and Miss Anna T. Graham, who is the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Meyers) Graham, and one of four children born unto that couple, the other members of the family being Henry, George and Elizabeth. Four children have come to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Coit, namely: Lena M., born in 1881; Morris E., born in 1883; Alma B., whose birth occurred in 1886; and Elizabeth R., born in 1893, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

In his political allegiance Mr. Coit is a stalwart republican, doing all in his power to further the influence of that party in the community, although he does not seek public preferment as a reward for party fealty. He is at present serving as a member of the board of education, and does all in his power to promote and uphold a high standard of education throughout the township. Public-spirited to a large degree, Mr. Coit's influence is always upon the side of progress, reform, improvement and advancement, and these qualities constitute him a citizen of worth in the community in which he resides.

FRANK G. FENTON.

An excellent farming property of ninety-seven acres in Ripley township, Huron county, pays tribute to the care and labor of Frank G. Fenton. A native of New York, he was born on the 13th of March, 1867, a son of George and Emma (Loomis) Fenton, both natives of the Empire state, who were also the parents of the following: Charles, Arthello and Aouda. The father was a son of Stephen and Philena (Cutler) Fenton, whose family consisted of Charles, Joel, Gilbert, George, Miles and Betsy.

Frank G. Fenton acquired his education in the district schools of his native state, where he was reared to manhood, and in 1892 he came to Ohio. He was thoroughly trained to the various duties of the home farm and has been identified with farming throughout the greater part of his active business career. For a few years, however, he was engaged in a creamery, but eventually resumed farming pursuits and now is the owner of ninety-seven acres of fine land upon which he has resided since his arrival in this state. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, and the soil, which is naturally rich and productive, responds

readily to the care and attention bestowed upon it, yielding annually rich golden harvests. Possessing excellent business ability, Mr. Fenton has so wisely and carefully conducted his farming interests that he has won substantial success and is ranked among the progressive and representative agriculturists of his section of the county.

Mr. Fenton was united in marriage on November 2, 1892, to Miss Bertha Thomas, a native of Ripley township, born on the 16th of February, 1861. She is a daughter of Sylvanus W. and Sarah Ann (Marcy) Thomas, the other members of whose family were Ida, George, Carrie and Charles Thomas. The father, who was born January 20, 1824, in New York, is a son of George and Adeline (Baker) Thomas, and a brother of Levi, George, Uriah, Fayette, Andrew, Alvira, Isabender and Walter Thomas. He followed the occupation of farming and was considered one of the best sheep breeders in the state of Ohio. He was also very well known in local political affairs and served as township treasurer for several years. His wife, who was the daughter of Abram and Sarah (Fisher) Marcy, was born in Connecticut on the 9th of November, 1822, and by her marriage to Mr. Thomas became the mother of three daughters: Maria, Sarah and Esther. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fenton has been born one child, Florence, whose birth occurred June 17, 1895.

They are members of the Congregational church, in which Mr. Fenton is serving as deacon and also as superintendent of the Sunday school. and are people of excellent traits of character, occupying a high place in the regard of their friends and neighbors. He is stalwart in his support of republican principles which, in his opinion, are most conducive to good government, but he has never desired nor sought office for himself. He has, however, served a number of times as a member of the township school board, the cause of education finding in him a warm champion. He is public-spirited in his citizenship, at all times lending his influence to those measures which have for their object the material, political, intellectual and moral welfare of the community. His salient characteristics have ever been in accord with the principles of honorable and upright manhood, and he ranks foremost among the valued citizens of the community.

FRANK T. GUESS.

Among those who can justly claim the proud title of self-made man is Frank T. Guess, successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Fairfield township, Huron county. A native of England, he was born in Boughton, Chelsea, County of Kent, on the 16th of May, 1865, a son of John and Mary Ann (Manser) Guess, both natives of England, the former born in 1826 and the latter in 1836. They were farming people in their native country, where they were married, and continued to engage in that occupation after their arrival in the United States. In their family were four sons and two daughters, as follows: George, John Henry, Frank Thomas, Frederick Alfred, Elizabeth Alice and Clara Isabel.

In 1884, when a young man of nineteen years, Frank T. Guess left England, and came with his parents to the United States, settlement being made in Ohio.

He had acquired his education in the schools of his native country and after arriving in this state remained upon his father's farm, assisting in the work of the fields, until he had attained his majority, when he entered business on his own account as a farmer and has been connected with agricultural pursuits continuously since. He now resides upon a farm of fifty acres, which he has now owned for six years, and to the improvement of which he directs his entire time and attention. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, has carried on his farming along progressive and up-to-date methods, and through his industry, enterprise and perseverance is meeting with gratifying success. Outside of his agricultural interests he is a stockholder in the Boughtonville Telephone Company, of which company he was one of the organizers.

In 1891 Mr. Guess returned to England, where he was united in marriage to Miss Keturah Clinch, who was born in South Green, Stockbury, in Kent. She is a daughter of John and Keturah Clinch also natives of England. Both Mr. and Mrs. Guess are members of the Methodist church, while politically Mr. Guess gives his allegiance to the republican party. He has crossed the Atlantic six times and the North Sea twice while he has traveled considerably throughout the west, and he relates many interesting incidents in connection with his various trips. He is truly a self-made man, for although he started out in life without any special advantages at the outset, by earnest, persistent and unfaltering effort he has made progress in the business world and is now ranked among the progressive and enterprising farmers of Fairfield county.

HENRY LINDER.

Henry Linder, who has followed agricultural pursuits all his life, and is now operating a farm of eighty acres in Sherman township, is a native son of Huron county, born November 20, 1852. He is a son of Lawrence and Catherine (Hurtz) Linder, both now deceased. The parents were born in Germany and came to America at an early date with their respective parents. The father followed the occupation of farming throughout his residence in this country. Of their family Henry Linder was the eldest, the remaining members being: Conrad; John; Elizabeth, the wife of George Krause; Catherine, who married Philip Conradi; Barbara, deceased; George; Lawrence; and Lena, the wife of Charles P. Eichenlaub.

The district schools of Peru township afforded Henry Linder his educational advantages, and he remained a student therein until seventeen years of age, when he put aside his text-books and began earning his own livelihood as a farm hand, working by the month. He was thus engaged for six years and then he purchased the farm upon which he now resides. He directs his energies toward general husbandry and the attention which he has given to his farm has made it one of the neat and well improved properties of the township. He practices rotation of crops, has made a thorough study of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and the best methods of cultivating each, and is a progressive and practical farmer who is winning a creditable degree of success.

In 1884 he married Miss Minnie Linder, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Swan) Linder, who were prominent farmers and early settlers of Huron county, Ohio. Although the name is the same, the families are not related in any way. Mrs. Henry Linder is the youngest in a family of five children, the other members being George, Lena, Catherine and Lawrence. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, namely: Elizabeth, born in August, 1885; Louis, whose birth occurred in October, 1888; and Karl, born in January, 1892. The two eldest attended the district schools, and are now at home, assisting their parents with the farm work, while the youngest, Karl, is a student at the Lutheran University of Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Linder are members of the Lutheran church and are interested in the various phases of church work. Mr. Linder is a democrat in politics where national questions are at issue, but is independent where local matters are concerned, voting for the best men, regardless of their party affiliation. His life has been a busy and useful one and the qualities of honorable manhood and good citizenship have been his. He is held in high regard wherever known and has a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

ISAAC H. ROBINSON.

Isaac H. Robinson is a typical farmer of the up-to-date class who utilizes modern machinery and methods to cultivate his soil and conduct the business of his farm. He owns one hundred and thirty-five acres in Norwich township and is of the third generation to own the property which was purchased by his paternal grandfather for three dollars per acre. He sold it to his son Wesley Robinson, and from him Isaac H. Robinson bought it. This farm is one of the best in the township, is well tiled and has on it a commodious brick house and good barns. The tiling was done during Wesley Robinson's life.

Isaac H. Robinson was born on the farm where he now resides, February 8, 1849, being a son of Wesley and Mary (Bennett) Robinson, and grandson of William and Letitia Robinson, who passed most of their lives in Ohio, and of Isaac H. and Sally Bennett, natives of New York state. His father followed farming throughout his life, operating the place he bought from his father. He was a man of consequence in his locality, serving as justice of the peace in Norwich township for many years, and was a democrat in political faith. Isaac H. Robinson was his second son, the other children being William, who lives in Grass Lake, Michigan; George, who lives in Huron county; and Daniel, who died in March, 1909.

On October 30, 1872, Isaac H. Robinson married Isadora Bramble, a daughter of John and Laura (Hossford) Bramble. Her father was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, and her mother in Huron county. They were the parents of the following children: Virginia, who is deceased; Izora, who married Nelson Wilson; and Isadora, who became Mrs. Robinson, and Rowland, who is deceased. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are: Laura, the wife of Chester Dooley, living in Peru township by whom she has one daughter Helen; and



MR. AND MRS. I. H. ROBINSON

Mary, who married Edward Cushman and has one son, Chester. They live in Norwich township.

Isaac H. Robinson was educated in the district school of Norwich township and since reaching manhood, has served very acceptably as school director and road supervisor. He is one of the prominent democrats of his locality and fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order at Attica, Ohio, and to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Centerton, Ohio. The family belong to the Methodist church. Having lived in Norwich township all his life, Mr. Robinson has watched its development with great interest and has never failed to respond when there was need of his help in furthering public improvements that he believed would conserve the best interests of the people.

W. F. HUFFMAN.

The industry, energy and thrift of W. F. Huffman is at once manifest in the excellent appearance of his farm of one hundred and twenty acres which is located in Ripley township, Huron county, and constitutes one of the valuable farming properties of that section of the county. A native of Ripley township, he was born on the 12th of February, 1864, and he and his brother Marshall are the only children of Artemus and Agnes (Allen) Huffman, natives of New York, the former born on the 11th of March, 1837, and the latter in Ithaca on the 16th of January, 1842. The father was the son of Solomon and Sarah Huffman, both natives of the Empire state, whose family consisted of William, Artemus, Leonard, Henry, Sarah, Martha, Mary, Margaret and Christina. James and Jane (Crosby) Allen were the parents of Agnes Allen, who was a sister of James, Andrew, Leonard, William, Joseph, Henry, Thomas, Mary Ann, Jennie and Esther Allen.

No event of especial importance came to vary the routine of life for W. F. Huffman during the period of his boyhood and youth, which was passed upon the home farm, his time being divided between acquiring an education in the district schools and assisting his father in the work of the fields. Under the careful direction of the latter he early learned lessons concerning the value of industry, energy and perseverance, and these elements continued to be salient qualities in his later business career. His farm of one hundred and twenty acres is under a high state of cultivation, and in its midst are found commodious barns and outbuildings, while Mr. Huffman has introduced all of the modern accessories and conveniences for facilitating labor, the place being equipped with everything that goes to make up a model farm of the nineteenth century.

Mr. Huffman was united in marriage on the 9th of December, 1885, to Miss Eva Barre, who was born on the 10th of April, 1864, and is a daughter of Wellington and Deborah (Gifford) Barre. Her parents were both natives of Ripley township, the father having been born in 1837 while the mother's birth occurred on the 4th of July, 1842. In their family were the following children: Eva, Della, Henry, Lee, Wade and Vernon. In the family of her paternal grandparents were fifteen children, namely: Wellington, David, Lyman, Jonathan, Herman, Ira,

Dwight, Corvis, James, Henry, Cornelia, Jane, Jessie, Marietta and Josephine. Her maternal grandparents were Edward and Almira (Salisbury) Gifford, residents of New York, whose family consisted of Deborah, Frank, Horace and Bursha. Corvis Huffman, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Huffman, was born on Christmas day of 1894.

Mr. Huffman and his wife hold membership in the Disciples church, their lives ever being in harmony with the teachings thereof. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Huffman has given stalwart support to the republican party and he is now acting as township trustee, having filled that office for seven years. Having resided in this county throughout his entire life he is well and favorably known here and his straightforward and honorable dealings have won for him the warm regard and esteem of all with whom he has been associated.

THAYER K. PERRY.

Investigation into the history of Ohio indicates that the Perrys came to the state during pioneer times and were active in clearing away the wilderness and utilizing the rich soil for farming purposes. The great-grandparents of him whose name introduces this review were Joseph and Sarah (Seward) Perry, the latter a relative of Secretary Seward of President Lincoln's cabinet. Among their children was Daniel Perry, who on arriving at years of maturity wedded Elizabeth Dow Tillson, a daughter of Thomas and Azubah (Noyes) Tillson. Unto Daniel and Elizabeth (Dow) Perry were born seven children: Edwin Louis, Charles Higgins, Dorcas Azubah, Seward Noyes, Anna Lucinda, Elizabeth and Willie Daniel.

Edwin Louis Perry, the father of Thayer K. Perry, was born in Peru township, Huron county, Ohio, November 13, 1841, and was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of the period, his education being acquired in the public schools, the Baldwin University at Berea, Ohio, and Western Reserve Normal School, of Milan, Ohio, while under the direction of his father he received his training in the work of the fields. In the year 1866 he was united in marriage to Miss Emily Tamar Ruggles, who was born July 20, 1843, in Ridgefield township, this county. The Ruggles family is also numbered among those that formulated the pioneer development of this part of the state. Her paternal grandparents were Eden and Artemisia (Jackson) Ruggles, of Connecticut, and the family is an old one of New England. Their son, Martin Luther Ruggles, the father of Mrs. Emily Perry, was born in Connecticut, November 13, 1803. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native state and about 1824, when twenty-one years of age, sought a home in what was then the far west. In the primitive manner of the times he journeyed to Huron county, Ohio, and took up his abode in Ridgefield township, amid the wild scenes and environments of frontier life. Here he followed his vocation as a skilled mechanic. He was married to Miss Fidelia Webb, who was born in New York, September 25, 1808, and their chil-

dren were Edward Harvey, Lester, Chester, Moses, Carrollton, Comfort Heber, Emily Tamar and Isabella.

Of this family Emily became the wife of Edwin L. Perry in 1866, and they have since traveled life's journey happily together. Mr. Perry is a man of liberal education, who supplemented his early advantages by study in Berea, Ohio, and in the Milan Normal School. He engaged in teaching for one term and with the exception of that period has devoted his entire life to general farming since attaining man's estate. He has been a busy man, actively engaged in the tilling of his fields, and the excellent appearance of his place is indicative of his careful supervision and progressive methods. In politics he is independent, voting for principle rather than for party. His wife is a lady of broad culture, who supplemented her public school privileges by further study in the Western Reserve Normal School at Milan, Ohio. It was while they were students there that Mr. and Mrs. Perry became acquainted and their friendship ripened into love and was consummated in marriage. Mrs. Perry engaged in teaching school for five years and has always been a warm advocate of the cause of education. Both Mr. and Mrs. Perry are members of the Baptist church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful part, doing all in their power to promote the growth of the church and extend its influence. Mr. Perry has served as deacon in the church and as Sunday school superintendent and teacher of the Bible class.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Perry have been born ten children: Ralph, Edith, Irene, Floyd, Daisy, Beth, Gladys, Branch, Thayer and one who died in infancy. Of this family Thayer K. Perry, whose name introduces this review, was born May 20, 1889. He has become an active assistant in the work of the home farm and is numbered among the enterprising young agriculturists of the community. In his business affairs he displays keen discrimination and sound judgment and he is proving himself a worthy representative of one of the leading families of the county. He is now teaching school in his second year.

GEORGE W. HANVILLE.

The business interests of Boughtonville find a worthy representative in George W. Hanville, a well known and prominent lumber merchant who also engages in the operation of a sawmill and at the same time cultivates a farm of sixty-five acres of fine land in Ripley township. A native of Pennsylvania, his birth occurred on the 18th of October, 1852, his parents being C. W. and Mary Ann (Fowler) Hanville, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively. The former, who was born in 1826, was for some time connected with the sawmill and lumber business at Lodi, Ohio, and later was the proprietor of a sawmill near North Fairfield, which is now operated by his son Adelbert Eugene. His wife was born in 1831 and by her marriage became the mother of the following children: Adelbert Eugene, George W., Charles P., Delphine, Eva and Ella.

George W. Hanville attended the schools of his native state in the acquirement of an education, and when about fourteen years of age accompanied his

parents on their removal to Ohio, where he has since continued to reside. He remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, and during the meantime, under the direction of his father, he gained a thorough and intimate knowledge of the lumber business, so that later, when entering upon an independent business career, he was fully qualified to carry on an enterprise of that nature on his own account. For the past thirty-five years he has conducted an extensive lumber business, buying and shipping hard and soft lumber, while he also operates a sawmill, in which connection he planes and matches lumber and does considerable custom work. He is likewise the owner of sixty-five acres of excellent farm land situated in Ripley township, upon which he carries on general agricultural pursuits. He is preeminently a man of affairs and is conducting his various enterprises in a systematic, progressive and business-like manner that is winning for him a high place among the leading business men of the community.

It was on the 25th of October, 1875, that Mr. Hanville was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Ann Maynard, who was born November 8, 1852, a daughter of D. Z. Maynard, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of A. D. Maynard, found on another page of this volume. Unto this union has been born four children namely: Arthur E., William D., George J. and Lena B. Mr. Hanville and his wife are members of the Disciples church, while Mr. Hanville gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He is interested in all that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community and gives loyal support to many measures for the general good. His worth as a business man is widely acknowledged, for he has made good use of his opportunities and has forged his way to the front, proving that energy and diligence constitute a safe basis upon which to build success. Honorable and straightforward in his business dealings, he may be termed a sound, substantial citizen, who keeps his promises, meets his obligations and is loyal to every trust.

FREDERICK HEARSON.

Frederick Hearson, who carries on general farming on his tract of land of ninety acres in Fairfield township, was born in Erie county, Ohio, December 17, 1852, his parents being Thomas and Sarah Ann (Temple) Hearson, both of whom were natives of England, in which country they were married. The year 1850 witnessed their emigration to the United States. In their family were the following children: John, George, Richard, Frederick, Frank, Elizann and Sarah.

Frederick Hearson has followed general agricultural pursuits as a life work and by reason of his industry, energy and capable management has won a goodly measure of success in his undertakings. He now owns a well improved and productive farm of ninety acres in Fairfield township, which he purchased in 1908, having previously disposed of his farm of one hundred and seven acres in Hartland township, Huron county. For a period of nineteen years he had been a resident of Lyme township. For the past year, however, he has been numbered among the prosperous and enterprising agriculturists of Fairfield township. Through

modern methods of farming he keeps his land in good condition and everything about the place indicates his careful supervision and practical methods.

In 1877 Mr. Hearson was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Parsons, a daughter of John and Emma (Stafford) Parsons. She was one of a family of six children, her brothers and sisters being as follows: George, Thomas, Susie, Mary and Izzie. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hearson have been born three children, namely: Charles Edward, who wedded Miss Mary Walker and lives in Toledo, where he is employed as a motorman; Edith May, the wife of Joseph Brandal, of Bellevue, Ohio; and Olive.

In his political views Mr. Hearson is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do. He belongs to the Methodist church and his life is in harmony with his professions. The circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances and all who know him entertain for him the warmest esteem and regard.

NELSON VAN AKEN.

Nelson Van Aken, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Ripley township, operating a fine farm of two hundred and eleven acres, was born in New York on the 22d of September, 1859, a son of Elijah and Sarah (Brooks) Van Aken. He was one of a family of seven children born unto that worthy couple, the others being Lewis, Minerva, Marinda, Walter, Marshall and Millard.

In the state of his nativity Nelson Van Aken was reared to manhood, attending the district schools in the acquirement of an education. In 1882, when a young man of twenty-three years, he came to Ohio, settling in Ripley township, where he purchased his present farm upon which he has continued to make his home throughout the twenty-seven years of his residence in this state. The period of his youth had been passed amid the scenes and environments of rural life, so that at an early age he had become familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the country lad, and under the direction of his father had learned lessons concerning the best methods of plowing, planting and harvesting. That his early training was thorough and comprehensive is indicated in the fact that since taking up agricultural pursuits on his own account he has been very prosperous. His home farm comprises two hundred and eleven acres of finely improved land, in the midst of which stand commodious and substantial buildings, while everything about the place indicates that he is in touch with the modern spirit of progress which is manifest in agricultural lines. Along with his general farming he engages in stock-raising, and in both branches of his business is meeting with gratifying success.

It was in the year 1883 that Mr. Van Aken was united in marriage with Miss Belle McClain, a daughter of J. K. and Angeline (Jonstein) McClain and a sister of John C., Albert, Carrie and Cora McClain. Unto this union was born one child, May. Mr. Van Aken holds membership with the Maccabees and also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while in politics he gives his support to the republican party. He neither desires nor seeks office, however, prefer-

ring to devote his time and attention entirely to the conduct of his business affairs which, under his careful control, are proving a source of most gratifying prosperity. During his residence in this community he has gained a circle of warm friends which is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

GEORGE W. HOLTZ.

George W. Holtz, one of Richmond township's prosperous native farmers, owns fifty-two and a half acres of well improved land, on which he pursues a general line of agriculture. He was born March 6, 1851, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Musser) Holtz. The father, who was a son of Jacob Holtz, was like the latter a native of Perry county, Pennsylvania. At the age of seven he came with his parents to Ohio, settled in Richland county, which remained his home for some years after his marriage, when he removed to Richmond township, Huron county, where he had bought about fifty acres of land. At the time of the purchase the farm was virgin soil, and Mr. Holtz had to clear away the timber before he could plant his crops. They proved to be fertile fields, however, and remained his home until his death, although by that time he had added one hundred and eight acres to his real-estate holdings. Mr. Holtz was married twice. His first wife, who was Miss Elizabeth Musser in her maidenhood, died in 1863, when her son George W. was about twelve years old. She had borne a family of five children: William, deceased; George W. and John W., who were twins; Sarah, now deceased, who married George Elston and lived in Breckenridge, Colorado; and Jennie, deceased, who was the wife of Elijah Limes and lived in Van Wert county, Ohio. Miss Sarah Thompson was the bride of Mr. Holtz's second marriage. She lived, however, only three years after their union, having become the mother of one daughter, Laura, who has been married twice, John Trotter having been her first husband, and Casius Gump her second. Mr. Holtz, who died May 2, 1898, and the deceased members of his family are buried in Union Bethel cemetery in Richmond township.

George W. Holtz attended the district schools of Richmond township, though the education he received was comparatively meager, for he was compelled to leave school when he was seventeen and during his earlier years could only spend two or three months at school each winter, for his assistance was needed on the farm as early and as late as the weather would permit. To agriculture he has devoted his time throughout life, for it was but in the course of the farm work that he became a skillful manager of a threshing machine and hay baler. Richmond township has always been his home, save for the three years he lived in Chicago, Ohio. However, he has made three trips west, for pleasure and to view the grandeurs of the western scenery. After his marriage the first land Mr. Holtz bought was a tract in Richmond township consisting of forty acres, which he purchased from Joseph Rush, but he later traded that for a farm of eighty-five acres, making up the difference in price with cash. He was soon able to add thirty acres to the tract, thus bringing his holdings to one hundred and fifteen acres, to which fifty-two and a half acres were added about the same

time through an inheritance. Subsequently he bought the farm on which he now lives and has sold the rest of his land, though he still retains some property in Chicago, Ohio.

Mr. Holtz has been married twice. Miss Susan Pickens, his first wife, to whom he was united November 29, 1872, was a daughter of Chris Pickens. By her marriage she became the mother of five children: James W., who lives in Utah; Irvin W., a resident of Attica, Ohio; Jacob, of Huron county; Vernon C., who died in his twenty-first year; and Jennie B., who lives in Toledo, Ohio. After his first wife's death, Mr. Holtz married Miss Esther Mathilda Waltz, a daughter of John G. and Myra (Casey) Waltz. Her father was born in Germany, but her mother was a native of Virginia and is still living, in Chicago, Ohio, celebrating the eighty-third anniversary of her birth, October 4, 1909, and enjoying good health. Mrs. Holtz was the eldest of four children, the others being Margaret Elizabeth, the wife of T. W. Bussard; Jacob D., who lives in California; and Amanda Catherine, the wife of W. A. Miller, of Wood county, Ohio. By Mr. Holtz's second marriage there was born one daughter, Anna Marion, who died in her ninth year.

A democrat in his political views, Mr. Holtz takes a vital interest in matters that concern the welfare of his fellow citizens, though he could never be called either a politician or an office-seeker. He has, however, served the community in the capacity of road supervisor and has been a member of the school board, and his influence is ever given to what he believes to be right. His religious affiliations are with the United Brethren. A hard working man, a generous competence has rewarded his labors, and he has been able to add improvements to his farm, has remodeled the house, built new sheds and put a new roof on the barn, all things bespeaking his industry and good management.

GEORGE A. HASSINGER.

One of the farmers of Ripley township, whose earnest efforts have been crowned with success is George A. Hassinger, who owns a farm of fifty-seven acres in the vicinity of the little village of Boughtonville. Though not one of Ohio's native sons, for more than a quarter of a century he has made this state his home and the scene of his toils. He was born March 29, 1866, in Blaine, Perry county, Pennsylvania. His parents, Samuel and Margaret (Trostle) Hassinger, were also natives of the Keystone state and were respectively the son and daughter of William Hassinger, and Henry and Elizabeth Trostle. Mr. and Mrs. Hassinger became the parents of seven children: William H., George A., Sadie, Ida, David, Laura and Alfred.

George A. Hassinger, the second son in this family, was reared in his Pennsylvania home until he was sixteen, receiving such education as a farmer's boy might acquire in the district schools when the time of year made it impossible for him to work in the fields. In 1882 he came to Ohio, finding employment on different farms and following the painter's trade which he had learned. About five years ago he bought the place on which he now lives and has devoted himself more

and more exclusively to the work of cultivating his fields. He still, now and then, however, does a day's or week's work at his trade and is accounted a skillful artisan.

George A. Hassinger was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Dick, December 14, 1888. She was born in Richland county, on a farm near Shelby, in the year 1862 and is a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Buskey) Dick, who were likewise of Ohio birth and were blessed with six children: Franklin, Alice, Minnie, Olivia, Jennie and Margaret. In Mr. and Mrs. Hassinger's family there are three children: Alverda, who was born January 25, 1892; Foster, who was born January 7, 1894; and Edna, born August 7, 1897.

The family are members of the Methodist church at Delphi and are not only punctilious in their attendance at its services but are also zealous in their practical application of its teachings. Politically Mr. Hassinger is a stanch democrat and is ever loyal in his support of the candidates of that party. He does not identify himself intimately with the public life of the township, however, although he has filled the position of school director, acquitting himself of his duties honorably. He has been active in promoting measures advantageous to his fellows, one having been the organization of the Boughtonville Telephone Company, of which he is a member. A man who has been dependent upon his own exertions for what he would possess in this world, he cannot but be gratified by the success with which they have been attended.

REV. MICHAEL J. COAN.

The Rev. Michael J. Coan, pastor of St. Francis Xaviers Catholic church at Chicago, Ohio, has been in charge here for four years, during which time he has firmly established himself in the hearts of his people and gained the full confidence of the citizens of this place. He is a native of Ireland, where he was born August 12, 1875, and is a son of Michael and Bridget (Muldoon) Coan, who were also natives of that country. They never left the Emerald Isle, but both died there. The grandfather on the paternal side, Patrick Coan, also died in Ireland. There were the following children in the family of Michael Coan and his wife: Myria, who married M. P. Hagarty and lives in Massachusetts; Anna; Catherine; Margaret, who is known as Sister Mary Peter, and Elizabeth, who is known as Sister Mary Clementine, both in a convent at Springfield, Massachusetts; Sarah, who lives in Massachusetts; Bridget, residing in Pittsfield, Massachusetts; John, who never left Ireland; and Michael J.

Father Coan first attended the national schools of Ireland, but when only seventeen he came to the United States and for one year worked in a dry-goods store in Boston, Massachusetts. He then began studying for the priesthood at the Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts, and after finishing there, he entered St. Bernard College at Rochester, New York, where he was ordained in 1904 by Bishop McQuaid. He was then sent to Cleveland, Ohio, where he served as assistant priest for one year in St. Philomena's church. On July 19, 1905, he was given charge of the church at Chicago, Ohio, and since he has assumed control

of affairs, the present church edifice was completed in 1906. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, of Chicago, Ohio.

Father Coan is a scholarly man, learned in the lore of his church and possessed of a deeply sympathetic nature that enables him to touch the hearts of his people. He is also an excellent business man, and the affairs of his parish are in a very flourishing condition under his capable management.

EZRA S. JENNINGS.

During the period of pioneer development in Huron county Ezra S. Jennings became a resident of this part of the state and remained here until his demise, continuing throughout the entire period as one of the respected and highly esteemed agriculturists and citizens of this section of Ohio. He was born in Fairfield, Connecticut, on the 21st of August, 1827, and was a son of Walter Jennings and a grandson of Daniel Jennings. The last named was born in Connecticut, October 14, 1770, and his life record covered the intervening years to the 14th of March, 1840, when he passed away at the age of sixty-nine. His wife, Phoebe Jennings, was born in Connecticut on the 14th of February, 1773. Their children were as follows: Walter, born in 1798; Rhoda; Eunice; Gregory, born in 1805; Ezra, in 1806; Abigail, in 1809; Daniel, in 1811; Gershem, in 1813; Sarah, in 1815; Esther, in 1817; and Alva, in 1819.

Of this family Walter Jennings became the father of Ezra S. Jennings. He was born near Bridgeport, Connecticut, on the 31st of May, 1798, and resided in that state until 1835. In the meantime he married, his wife, Mrs. Rhoda Jennings, having been born near Bridgeport on Christmas day of 1802. Their children were: Ezra S., Gregory, Nelson, Mary Ann, Sarah, and twins, who died in infancy.

Ezra S. Jennings spent the first eight years of his life in the state of his nativity and in 1835 accompanied his parents on their removal westward to Ohio. The journey was made by way of the Erie canal to Buffalo and thence by way of Lake Erie to Huron. From that point they traveled by wagon to Fairfield township. Upon reaching their destination the father purchased nine acres of land on which was an old log cabin. There were only two frame houses within ten miles and there were still many evidences of pioneer life to be seen. Deer were often seen in the forests and turkeys and other kinds of wild game were very numerous. The native timber was uncut and only here and there had a clearing been made to show that civilization was begun. As the years passed, however, the Jennings family became active factors in the work of general progress and improvement here.

Ezra S. Jennings was reared amid the wild scenes and environments of pioneer life and shared with the family in all of the hardships and trials incident to establishing a home on the frontier. He assisted in the arduous task of developing new land and throughout his entire life he followed the occupation of farming. He made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 28th of November, 1850, to Miss Harriet R. Godden, who was born in Utica, New

York, on the 23d of October, 1829. In the year 1834 she was brought to Fairfield township, Huron county, by her parents, William H. and Lucina (Butler) Godden. The father was a native of Albany, New York, born August, 6, 1804, and on the 8th of January, 1826, he married Lucina Butler, whose birth occurred at Lee, Oneida county, New York, June 19, 1809. Their children were: Elizabeth, John, Emory, Mary, Jennie, Sarah, Lucinda, Julia and Harriet. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Jennings was John Godden, a native of Westmoreland, New Jersey, whose family included: John, David, Elizabeth, Nancy, Charlotte, Sarah, and William H. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Jennings was Jonathan Butler, who was born in the state of New York, August 1, 1781. He married Lucina Wright, whose birth occurred in Connecticut, December 26, 1779. Their children were: Ezra, Adin, Harriet, Edward and Lucinda.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ezra S. Jennings began their domestic life upon a farm in Huron county and as the years passed eight children were added to the household, namely: Desseline E., Byron E., Edwin K., Mary Louisa, Edson Grant, Herbert Floyd, Hattie May and Lena Rivers.

Mr. Jennings worked persistently and earnestly to develop his fields and bring his farm under a high state of cultivation. He lived to witness many changes in the methods of farm work. In his youthful days there was little of the modern machinery now used. He saw the introduction of the thresher, cultivator, riding plow and the self-binder, and at all times he kept abreast with the trend of advancement in agricultural lines. He continued to successfully carry on his farming operations until 1899, when, having reached the age of seventy-two years, he retired to private life and with a comfortable competency removed to North Fairfield, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest, his death occurring in 1907. Mrs. Jennings was always a faithful helpmate to her husband and her wise counsel as well as her labors was of much assistance to him as the years passed by. She has now reached the advanced age of eighty years and is held in the highest regard by young and old, rich and poor, throughout the part of Huron county in which she makes her home.

JOHN ROBERT COX.

John Robert Cox, a substantial farmer of Richmond township, Huron county, and the owner of the fifty-two acres on which he lives, was born in this township, February 12, 1857, and is a son of Abraham and Margaret (Pollinger) Cox. The parents were also natives of this state, the father having been born in Carlton, the mother in Huron county, and both were early habituated to the hardships of farm life, for their parents were among the early settlers who had to make ready the land before they could put in their crops. The mother and father died in 1859, leaving two children, the eldest, John Robert, of this review, being but two years old. William, the other child, is now a resident of Richmond township.

Upon the death of his parents John Robert Cox was taken by his maternal grandfather, Abraham Pollinger, with whom he lived until he died. He attended the district schools, from which his education was derived, until he became twen-

ty-one, though all his vacations and the early spring and fall months were devoted to the work that was carried on on his grandfather's farm. Upon the death of Mr. Pollinger, Mr. Cox bought the land from the other heirs. He has found it to be arable soil, that had been kept in good condition during his grandfather's lifetime. Indeed the latter had cleared it himself, with the help of Daniel Pollinger, in the early days of Richmond township. From his childhood trained in the practical cultivation of a farm, Mr. Cox has known how to obtain the very best returns possible from the land at his disposal. He has not shirked hard work and feels that he reaps an abundant harvest for his many hours of toil.

In November, 1884, Mr. Cox was united in marriage to Miss Elma Kirkwood, a daughter of Lewis and Anna Kirkwood. The parents were numbered among those stalwart settlers who prepared the way for the conditions of the present. They are survived by six children: Thomas, the eldest of the family; Myria, who married John Couch and lives in Chicago, Ohio; Charles, unmarried; Elma, who became Mrs. Cox; Amos, also unmarried; and Jessie, who became the wife of Willis Harmon and lives in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Cox have one daughter, Mabel Fern, who married James Dawson, a farmer of Seneca county, Ohio.

Following in the footsteps of his father who joined the republican party when it was first being organized, Mr. Cox has always cast his vote for its candidates, not through a blind acceptance of his father's principles alone but because he believes that in its platform are included some of the best principles for the government of a nation. Although he has not taken a very active part in public matters, Mr. Cox served one term as road supervisor. He belongs to the Church of God in Richmond township and is zealous in fulfilling his religious duties and generous in his contributions to the support of the church.

HOWARD LOFLAND.

Howard Lofland, who for more than two score years has lived upon the farm in Ripley township which is now his home, was born near Plymouth, in Richland county, Ohio, October 9, 1848, and is a son of Solomon and Eleanor (Tyson) Lofland. The father, who was born near Mansfield, Ohio, in 1810, was a son of Thomas Lofland and a brother of Dorman and Comfort. The mother was born in England in 1812 and was about twelve years of age when her parents, William and Ann Tyson, came to America. They settled in Richland county, Ohio, near Plymouth, and contributed their share toward making the county a farming section, for they had to hew their fields out of the forests. Mrs. Lofland was the youngest of four children, William, John and George being her elder brothers. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Lofland was born eleven children: William, Henry, Smith, Howard, Charles, Ned, Thomas, one deceased, Jane, Frances and Emma.

Howard Lofland grew up under the careful guidance of his parents, from whom he received that instruction in the principles which should guide his life and which have proved of inestimable value to him as the years have passed. His

early education, however, the training in the rudiments of English learning, was received in the little district school, and had it not been supplemented by practical experience would scarcely have sufficed for the business of life. Upon the completion of the course of study prescribed by his teachers, Mr. Lofland turned to the serious work of the farm, assisting his father in whatever way he could, and then assuming full charge of affairs as the older man's advancing age made it increasingly difficult for him to do the heavier labor. About twenty years ago his father was released from the cares of this world and Mr. Lofland bought the farm from his heirs and has since had possession of it. A fine tract of ninety-nine acres, it well repays the earnest work he puts upon it.

In 1878 Mr. Lofland was married to Miss Lucy Mutler, of Plymouth, and a daughter, Ida, was born to them in 1879. After the death of his first wife Mr. Lofland married, October 9, 1888, Miss Catherine Monteith, who was born in Ireland in January, 1861, and was but four years old when brought by her parents, John and Catherine (Baird) Monteith, to this country. The family settled in Plymouth, Ohio, and there the children—John, Andrew, Mary and Catherine—grew to maturity. Of Mr. Lofland's second marriage there has been but one child born, Carl Monteith, whose birth occurred April 16, 1890. He is a promising young man who is now in the employ of the People's Bank at Plymouth.

Mr. Lofland and the members of his family belong to the Presbyterian church and are loyal in their support of its doctrines. Politically he adheres stanchly to the republican party, believing that in its platform are embodied the best principles for the government of a nation. A hard working man, he has won success from a difficult life through his own efforts and not through the misfortunes of others less able to withstand the struggles of life.

JACOB M. FINK.

Jacob M. Fink, a prosperous member of the farming community of Richmond township, was born on the farm on which he now lives, October 6, 1854, and is a son of John R. Fink and his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Matilda Miller. On the paternal side he is of remotely French descent, and on the maternal of German, though for several generations both families have been of American birth and have participated in the affairs of this country. John R. Fink was born February 22, 1826, and like his father, John S. Fink, was a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where also was born, January 11, 1828, the woman who became his wife. In 1854 John R. Fink came with his family to Richmond township, Huron county, settling on the farm where his son now lives. Two years later, however, he removed to the farm adjoining it on the east, on which he passed the remainder of his days. The Fink family are thus widely interested in the farming conditions of the township.

Jacob M. Fink was reared on the home farm, devoting himself to the necessary work during his vacation periods and even during the few months when the schools were in session, for with the majority of farmer's boys lessons find what place they can in the midst of sterner duties. He married Miss Martha

Beamer, December 23, 1883. She is a daughter of Mathias and Margaret (Thompson) Beamer, both natives of Ohio, the father having been born in Tuscarawas county, the mother in Carroll county. They were married in the former county, then removed to Van Wert county, whence they came to Huron county, where they resided the remainder of their lives and where they were buried when they were released from the cares of this world, the father September 10, 1898, the mother less than six months later, February 23, 1899. They were the parents of nine children, of whom Elizabeth, who is deceased, was the wife of John Faint; Hannah married George Cole; John F. was the fourth child; Anna married Jacob Rapp; Lucinda first married Louis Rapp and after his death married Lewis Livenspiker; Ellen became the wife of Charles H. Clark; Allen was the seventh in the family; and Martha is the wife of Jacob M. Fink, of this review; and Emma is the wife of Sam Garber.

On the farm which has ever been his home and from the field whose character he knows so well, Mr. Fink obtains more than the necessities of life, being the owner of one hundred and thirty-six acres of well improved land. By skill and industry he has been able to reap bountiful harvests and by thrift and good management he has been able to save something from each year's yield. He has not taken part in the public life of the township, for the cares of his farm have left him little time for other matters.

WILLIAM W. HOPKINS.

William W. Hopkins, a farmer of Greenwich township and also a contracting builder, is a well known citizen of the county, being especially active in Grand Army matters, having been a worthy wearer of the blue during the trying days from 1861 to 1865. He was born September 27, 1844, and is a native of the township where he resides. His parents were Willard K. and Jane U. (Easterly) Hopkins, the father a native of Barnstable, Massachusetts, the mother of Gloversville, New York. Her uncle was the pioneer glovemaking of that village. Willard K. Hopkins came to Greenwich township in 1838 with his first wife, Lucy Reed, of a New York family, who died shortly after coming to Ohio, leaving two children, Mary A. and Lucy M. In 1843 occurred the second marriage of Mr. Hopkins and eight children were born of this union, namely: William W., Albert J., Francis T., Elizabeth J., Julia E., Isadora A., Arman B., and George H., all living but Elizabeth. The father was one of the pioneers who hewed their farms out of the forest and lived to see them cultivated and improved tracts. He was a man of strong character, quiet and of homelike tastes, and greatly respected by those who knew him. He and his wife lie together in Greenwich cemetery, the father passing first in May, 1879, the mother in 1882.

William W. Hopkins was reared to pioneer life and received but the rudiments of an education in the crude schools of his time. Being of an observant turn of mind, he has made up for many delinquencies in the school of life as time has passed. A lad yet in his teens when Old Glory felt the traitor's blow, he soon found himself beneath her folds, as a private in Company D, of the One

Hundred and First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served two years and ten months, to the close of the struggle, for the greater part of the term in the middle west with the Army of the Cumberland, doing faithful service in the memorable Atlanta campaign.

Soon after returning home, Mr. Hopkins was joined in marriage to Phoebe J. Beers, a daughter of Lewis and Dorothy A. (Percy) Beers. Her father was from Connecticut, and lived his life at Clarksfield, his wife having been a native of that town. He was a millwright and carpenter of great industry and of forceful character. His wife died in 1853, while he lived to an advanced age, dying in 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins are the parents of six children: Lewis W., a resident of Akron, Ohio; Clarence R., of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Maude E., deceased; Clayton J., a farmer of Richland county, Ohio; Nellie C., the wife of Charles Dady, a jeweler, of Canton, Ohio; and Willard K., of Akron.

From 1869 until 1872, Mr. Hopkins and his family resided in Norwalk township and then removed to Greenwich township, where he followed farming until 1879. Since then he has made his home in the village of Greenwich and has engaged in business as a brick-mason and builder.

He is a republican in politics and has always been a wise counsellor in the deliberations of the party in his community. As township trustee, constable, member of Greenwich council and waterworks trustee, he performed the duties of the various positions with the greatest efficiency and to the best interests of the public.

In his social life Mr. Hopkins gets most of his pleasure in serving the Grand Army. He is a past commander, has served in all of the minor offices and is a familiar figure at the different reunions of that grand organization. He and his family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and as a member of the board of trustees and as financial and recording secretary has done good service in the church. His wife is an intelligent and refined woman, active and forceful in the church and its various interests, and a worker in all charities of the community. The Hopkins home radiates an influence which is a great factor for good, and both parents and children receive, as they should, the esteem of the whole countryside.

JOHN S. BERRY,

John S. Berry, who has been prominent in Greenwich township, Huron county, as a stockman, and in the mercantile world for almost half a century, was born January 12, 1831, in Onondaga county, New York, a son of Clark and Elmira (Pettis) Berry. The family came to Fairfield township, Huron county, Ohio, in the fall of 1832, having made the journey from their old home by wagon, experiencing many hardships on the way. The father bought a farm in the woods and built a log cabin which was to serve for their home and immediately started to clear the land. In his family were six children, who all had a taste of these primitive conditions. They were: John S., Isaac J., Danford W., Wheaton, Chauncey, and Celia, now Mrs. Nathan Carpenter, of Reading, Michigan. She and

John S. are now the only survivors, the others having come to their deaths in rather unusual manner. Wheaton was teaching and lecturing in Texas before the war and because of something said publicly that was displeasing to the people there he was one evening shot upon the street. Isaac J. and Danforth and his wife were drowned with several others in Clear Lake, Michigan, on the Fourth of July some forty years ago. Chauncey died on Christmas day, 1908, from the effects of a paralytic stroke received six years before. The parents were people of sterling character and highly respected in the community in which they lived. The father died in the spring of 1885 and was buried in the cemetery at Fairfield beside his wife, who had preceded him to her last resting-place some twelve years, her death having occurred in October, 1873.

John S. Berry lived with his parents until he was twenty-one. He received his early education in the common schools of the county, later attending the high school at Fairfield. When he attained his majority he entered the mercantile world in that town with Hiram Barnum, and that partnership continued for about four years, when Mr. Berry commenced farming, which he followed for two years. He then opened a grocery in Greenwich, and during the years that have since passed he had also been engaged in buying and selling stock and shipping it to the eastern markets. For a number of years he also engaged in buying and selling wool and during the period of the Civil war he handled large quantities of this commodity and stock, from which he derived a considerable profit. He continued in mercantile business in Greenwich for about twenty years, but has been engaged in the stock and wool industry for forty-one years, during which time he has had dealings with every farmer and wool grower for miles around. The result of these transactions has gained for him the reputation, well earned indeed, for fair and honorable dealing. At one time he was also the owner of considerable land, four hundred acres being the extent of his possessions, and he still owns two hundred and fifty acres and a commodious house in Greenwich. He worked hard and fortune looked favorably upon him.

On the 21st of November, 1852, Mr. Berry was united in marriage to Miss Lucy M. Gifford, a daughter of Abraham and Marietta (Blockmore) Gifford. The parents came to Ohio in 1832 from Erie county, New York, and settled in Greenwich township, where the father began farming and became a large landowner and a highly esteemed citizen. When he died, August 24, 1878, he was buried by his wife, who had died January 4, 1864, in Ripley. Mr. and Mrs. Berry are the parents of two children: Charles A. and Eva Eldora, both of whom died within a week of one another in September, 1865. Shortly after this loss they adopted a niece who came to the family when a mere child, and to whom they gave the name of their deceased daughter, Eva Eldora. She is now married to George E. Richey, of Columbus, Ohio. On the 21st of November, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Berry celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, at which many friends proffered their good wishes and their hopes that for many more years they might traverse life's pathway together.

Mr. Berry has all his life been a very busy man and has had little time to give to public affairs. He has always been a republican and when a younger man was very active in the interests of his party though he never sought office. His influence has ever been exerted for the good of the community and for a number of years he

filled the office of township assessor. He is a member of Greenwich Lodge, No. 543, F. & A. M., and with Mrs. Berry belongs to the Eastern Star. He is also a member of the chapter at New London, and both he and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church for more than half a century, for forty years of which Mr. Berry has been its treasurer and in other ways active in the affairs of the church. In short he is a man, who looking back over the many years that have been granted him, can feel satisfied with the use he has made of them and the good will of his friends.

HENRY BORES.

Henry Bores, a prominent farmer of Sherman township, Huron county, and the owner of the one hundred and twenty-two acres of land on which he lives, was born in that township, about one mile east of his present home, on the 25th of July, 1860. He is a son of David and Anna M. (Fachinger) Bores, both of whom were born in Germany, but have for many years been citizens of this county and are at present living upon two hundred and forty acres of land in Sherman township. David Bores was born January 22, 1833, and was but twenty years of age when he embarked upon the journey to this country, alone, for his parents, John and Catherine (Klepel) Bores, had too many ties in their native land to relinquish them and make a new home amid new surroundings. There were other ties just as strong as home that held them to Germany, ties of patriotism and loyalty, for John Bores had been a soldier and in serving his country fought against Napoleon in 1815. David Bores landed in New York on coming to the United States and proceeded to Ridgefield township, Huron county, Ohio, where he worked by the month for different farmers for about three years, and then rented a tract of land for perhaps six years. Two years after coming here, he married Miss Anna M. Fachinger, who had come to the United States with her brother Joseph from Germany, and to them were born six children: Joseph, deceased; Elizabeth, who married C. Wilhelm; Henry; August; John; and Emma, the wife of William Ringland. David Bores was a member of a family of five children, having two brothers and two sisters: John, Louis, Elizabeth and Minnie. He was a young man when he came to this county and soon identified himself with local affairs, taking a prominent part in political and governmental matters. For a number of years he served as township trustee and as road superintendent, to which office he was elected on the democratic ticket. He and his family were all members of the Catholic church and from its foundation were active in promoting its welfare.

In Sherman township Henry Bores has spent the greater part of his life. He was reared at home and acquired his education at the district schools, early entering upon the occupation which his father followed and in addition to farming engaging to quite an extent in threshing. In 1897 he bought his present farm from Joe Long, on which during the past twelve years he has made a number of important improvements. A successful farmer, Mr. Bores follows in the steps of his father in other respects as well, taking an efficient interest in public affairs

and being selected by the people to serve them in two capacities. As a trustee of this township he has had a guiding hand upon its government and as a member of the school board he has done much to advance the cause of education here. He is not much given to fraternal organizations and societies, but is a member of the National Protective Legion and is interested in its work.

On the 3d of February, 1885, Mr. Bores was united in wedlock to Miss Mary Bauman, the daughter of John and Barbara (Barbrick) Bauman, of Sherman township. The former is still living, in Monroeville, but the mother has passed away, after having reared a family of three children: Emma, who married Anthony Hammersmith, of Erie county, Ohio; Mary; and Allie, who married August Bores, a brother of our subject. Mrs. Henry Bores was born in Sherman township and is the mother of six children: Anna, the eldest of the family and now the wife of Lawrence Myers, of Sherman township. Louisa, who married Stephen Lash, and also lives in Sherman township, being the mother of three children, Walter, Clarence and Marian. The four youngest of the Bores family, Benjamin, Walter, Carl and Ramon live at home. The whole family are members of the Catholic church at Bismarck, which the elder Mr. Bores helped to build.

Henry Bores is one of the prominent farmers of Sherman township and well he might be, not only for the skill he has evinced as a tiller of the soil, but also for the concern he has shown in public affairs and for the service he has rendered the people. His assistance has ever been that of an honest and upright man, and he is held in high regard by those who know him.

ADAM BIUERLE.

Adam Biuerle, who is one of the three heirs to the father's estate of one hundred and twenty-eight acres lying in Richmond township, Huron county, Ohio, owns in his own right thirty-seven acres adjoining the home place on the east. He was born in Cincinnati, August 23, 1853, and is a son of Leonard J. and Catherine (Leitenberger) Biuerle. His paternal grandparents were Adam and Christina Biuerle, while his maternal grandparents were George Adam and Mary Susan Leitenberger, who were born in Germany and never left their native land. Leonard Biuerle and the woman who afterward became his wife came to the United States as young people about the year 1847. In the city of Cincinnati they were married and a couple of years later, about 1854, came to Huron county, where they lived until their death. The mother passed away September 4, 1884, while the father survived until April 11, 1891. They were buried in Richmond township. In their family were five children: Catherine, Adam, Caroline, Christina and Mary. Of these the two eldest were born in Cincinnati, the others in Huron county. Caroline, now deceased, was the wife of Christ Aichholz; Mary wedded John Marshall, but Catherine, Adam and Christina have never left the home place.

Christina Biuerle received her early education in the public schools of Huron county, and later for two terms was a student at Ada, Ohio. Upon the completion of her own training she engaged in teaching, first for a number of years in the schools of Huron county, then for two terms in Seneca county, and lastly, for two

years in the Chicago high school. She was successful in her profession, but gave it up that she might be at home and assist in the conduct of the farm. Catherine Biuerle attended the district schools until twelve years of age and then devoted her time to assisting her mother, who was in ill health and needed her help in carrying on the work of the home.

Adam Biuerle obtained all his education in the district schools, and though he remained at his lessons until he was twenty-one, it was for but a few months a year, and even then his summers and spare time was spent in work on the farm. He became a skilled agriculturist, however, with the passing of the years, able to take charge of affairs and competent to conduct the farm upon a paying basis. He has also taken part in the public life of the community to a slight extent, following in his father's footsteps in the various offices he has held, for like the older man he has been road supervisor and one of the directors of the educational interests of the township. He too has espoused the cause of the democratic party, finding that its platform is more in accord with his own views. The brother and two sisters conduct the affairs of the farm that was left to them by their father and unite their efforts in making it one of the most fertile and productive tracts in Richmond township. They are members of the Lutheran church, stanch in their support of its doctrines, which find practical application daily in their lives.

HENRY LUTMAN.

Henry Lutman, one of the prosperous farmers of Ripley township, who owns one hundred and ten acres of land in the vicinity of Boughtonville, was born in France, May 15, 1853. He is the only son of Philip and Christina (Noacher) Lutman, who came to America when he was but eighteen months old, for they were anxious to make a start in life where conditions seemed more favorable than in the turbulent land of their birth, and they were desirous that their son should have the many advantages that need only be grasped by the young men of this country.

Reared to the life of a farmer, Mr. Lutman has devoted himself unremittingly to the culture of fields since he attained his majority. He never shunned hard work, but with the determination to succeed, which is characteristic of his race, he pushed straight ahead, exchanging one piece of land for another wherever he saw an opportunity to better himself. About nine years ago he bought his present farm in Ripley township. To this, too, he has given his attention with practical enthusiasm and has felt fully repaid for the privations which he endured and the hard work which he had spent, when at harvest time each year he was better off than he had been the year before. His labors have not, however, been all selfishly directed; he has for thirteen years found time to devote to the educational interests of the township, serving the people faithfully as a member of the school board.

In 1877 Mr. Lutman was married to Miss Sarah Grover, who is a daughter of Solomon and Catherine Grover and the sister of George, Isaac, John, Susan and Mary, the other children of her parents. To Mr. Lutman and his wife have been

born three children: Anna, who married Arthur Watts; Dora, who became the wife of Clifford Knight; and Lewis, who married Miss Nettie Palm.

When called upon to exercise his right of franchise Mr. Lutman invariably casts his ballot for the candidate of the democratic party, for he is a firm believer in its principles as defined in its platform. An American in all but birth, by his industry, his frugality, which constitute his example to his neighbors and friends, he is deserving of the success which has rewarded his hard work, and it is without the bitterness that taints the good fortune of those who have built their little world on the ruins of the hopes and aspirations of others.

WILLIAM G. CHANNING.

One of the native sons of Huron county who have continued in the life to which they were reared, that of a farmer, is William G. Channing, who owns ninety-one acres of land in Richmond township. He was born, however, in Greenfield township, December 11, 1852. His parents, Joseph and Charlotte (Fox) Channing, were born, reared and married in England. In 1848 they came to America and joined their forces with those of the other early settlers of Huron county who were doing their share toward the great development which the last half of the preceding century witnessed. Six children were born to them: Ellen, who became the wife of William H. Callin; Joseph R.; Susan, who married Thomas A. McClain; Louisa, who became the wife of A. M. Cole; Lydia, who married S. S. Lloyd; and William G., who is the subject of this sketch.

William G. Channing received the fundamentals of his education in the district schools of Huron county. The meager instruction which they were able to afford during the few months they were in session he has greatly supplemented, however, both through practical experience and by extensive reading and study. One of his largest assets being a capacity for hard, unremitting toil, he has secured from his farm a substantial income due also to the scientific study he has made of agricultural methods and the nature of his soil. Reared to the life of a farmer, he has followed that calling but at the same time has found exercise for the business ability which is his on the stock and grain market and in the buying and selling of hay and fertilizer.

Mr. Channing has been married twice, his first wife being Miss Alice Leply, a daughter of Harrison and Elizabeth Leply. The one son, Elmer, who was born of this union, is an electrician at Niagara Falls. When Mr. Channing married again Miss Eliza J. Dawson became his wife. She was a daughter of James B. Dawson by his first wife, who in her maidenhood was Miss Mary Dickinson. The others of this family were J. W., A. H., G. H. and J. E. By his second wife, who before her marriage was Miss Julia Sweetland, Mr. Dawson had five children: H. S., D. F., C. A., R. A. and Mary. The daughter is now the wife of D. W. Hillis. Of Mr. Channing's second union there have been two children born: Charlotte, who is the wife of John W. Mowery and Finace J., who lives at home.

Mr. Channing gives his support in political matters to the republican party, with whose platform he is most in sympathy. He is not a man who aspires to public

office, however, though he has on occasion served the citizens of his township well and takes an interest in local affairs. For several years he acted as justice of the peace and as a member of the school board advanced the cause of education in the township. In 1900 he was appointed to take the census in Richmond township. The family are members of the United Brethren church, to which they have given unfailing and substantial support for a number of years.

JULIUS HAGMAN.

Julius Hagman, one of the most prominent German-American residents of Chicago, Ohio, is now living retired save for the supervision which he gives to his extensive property interests. He was born in Germany on the 2d of September, 1858, his parents being John B. and Frances (Leis) Hagman, both of whom passed away in that country. The father's death occurred on the 26th of November, 1871, while the mother was called to her final rest in 1903, when seventy-six years of age. Their family numbered nine children, as follows: Monica, who is a Sister of Charity in Germany; Catherine, who is the widow of Joseph Kimmer and lives in Wittenberg, Germany; Julius, of this review; Joseph, a resident of the fatherland; Otto, who is deceased; Krezenz, living in Switzerland; Paul, of Germany; Richard, who also makes his home in that country; and Bridget, the wife of a Mr. Habercan, of Germany.

Julius Hagman attended the schools of his native land and in early manhood served as a soldier of the German army for six months. The year 1881 witnessed his emigration to the United States and after landing on the shores of this country he made his way at once to Sandusky, Ohio, where for two years he worked as a day laborer. Subsequently he took up his abode in Chicago, Huron county, Ohio, securing employment in the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad shops and, by dint of untiring industry and close economy, at length accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to engage in business on his own account. It was in 1891 that he started out for himself, becoming the proprietor of a restaurant, which he successfully conducted until the 5th of September, 1905, when he sold the establishment to Lewis Schwartz. Since that time he has lived practically retired from active business cares save for the supervision which he gives to his invested interests, being the owner of considerable town property. The prosperity which has crowned his efforts has come as the direct result of his own well directed and indefatigable labor, and he is now widely recognized as one of the most substantial, respected and representative citizens of the county.

On the 9th of September, 1901, Mr. Hagman was united in marriage to Mrs. Gracens Schandorfer, a daughter of John N. and Mary Batch and the widow of Valentine Schandorfer, of Port Clinton, Ohio. She was born in Germany and when a maiden of sixteen years accompanied her parents on their emigration to the new world, the family first locating at Sandusky, Ohio, while later they took up their abode in Port Clinton, this state. John N. Batch, a carpenter by trade, still survives at the age of eighty-nine years and makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Hagman. His wife is deceased, however, having passed away in 1908, when

eighty-seven years of age. They reared a family of seven children, namely: Joseph; Edward, who is the present mayor of Port Clinton; William; Mrs. Hagman; Matilda; Hubbard; and Henry. By her former husband Mrs. Hagman had six children, the record of whom is as follows: John, who died in 1907, when thirty-eight years of age, wedded Miss Anna Weisbaker, by whom he had three children: Vernice, Beulah and Ruth. Edward first wedded Miss Sallie Henry, and after her death was joined in wedlock to Mrs. Rae Townsend. They make their home at Painesville, Ohio. Frank, who married Miss Bessie Ashley, is foreman in the Baltimore & Ohio shops at Zanesville, Ohio. Tillie, living at Garrett, Indiana, is the wife of Leo Mager, by whom she has two children, Leroy and Lucile. Lewis is a resident of Painesville, Ohio. Cornelius, a twin brother of Lewis, is deceased.

Politically Mr. Hagman is a stalwart advocate of the democracy and on that ticket was elected a member of the city council, the duties of which office he is now discharging in a most capable and faithful manner. Religiously he is a faithful communicant of the Catholic church and is now serving as one of the trustees. His fraternal relations are with the Eagles and the Knights of Columbus at Steuben. Although born across the water, he is thoroughly loyal to the stars and stripes and to the interests of his adopted land. As the years have passed he has so directed his business affairs that he is now enabled to enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life without recourse to further labor. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in America, but on the contrary has found here the business opportunities he has sought and in their utilization has won a goodly measure of success.

WILLIAM O. VAN LIEW.

William O. Van Liew, who has had a varied experience as a business man, is now operating his excellent farm of sixty-four acres in Richmond township, where he has become thoroughly identified with the best interests of his locality, and prominent in the republican party. He was born in Norwich township, June 22, 1862, a son of William C. and Charlotte (Burdge) Van Liew, both of whom were natives of New York state, and were brought to Ohio in childhood. The father was a farmer of Norwich township until within three years of his demise, when he retired to Centerton, and there he died, September 6, 1903, aged seventy-five years, as he was born in 1828. His wife had died March 7, 1896, in Norwich township. During the Civil war he served as a ninety-day man in Company H, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The following children were born to him and his wife: Allen, who is deceased; Alberta, who married B. F. Denson; Mary, who married Joseph Robinson; William O.; Fred; and Ada, who married Edward Silter.

William O. Van Liew was given more than ordinary opportunities for securing an education for after he finished his course in the public schools of Norwich, he entered Ada College at Ada, Harding county, Ohio, and after a term there he entered the Attica high school. He then learned the trade of painter and paper hanger by working in Chicago, Ohio, and pursued this occupation for thirteen

years. At this time his services were required by his father and for the following three years he operated the homestead. Having by this time decided that he preferred an agricultural life, he purchased his present farm from John Dellinger and has been devoting himself ever since to improving and cultivating it.

On March 17, 1885, Mr. Van Liew married Emma Shanks, a daughter of James and Sarah Jane (Tanner) Shanks, farmers of Richmond township. They had the following family: Lucy, who married Dr. H. G. Blaine; Mrs. Van Liew; Odella, who married Clayton C. Sanford; Anna, who married F. A. Richards; Estella, who married V. E. Cole; Arthur and Lilly. Mr. and Mrs. Van Liew have three children: Leo, born January 28, 1887; Cora, born January 21, 1889; and Ruth, born March 29, 1895.

Mr. Van Liew has served as school director of Norwich township one term, and one term as road supervisor in Richmond township, being elected both times on the republican ticket. The family are Methodists in religious faith. Mr. Van Liew has always been a hard working man, earnest in his endeavors to produce the best results and to live up to a high standard of right living, and that he has succeeded, his popularity with his neighbors and friends amply testifies.

GEORGE WILLIAM BRINSON.

George William Brinson, a farmer and successful stock breeder and raiser of Ripley township, was born on the farm on which he now lives September 6, 1868. He is a son of James and Elizabeth (Mervin) Brinson, who were of English birth and education. James Brinson, the son of Thomas Brinson, was born in Somersetshire, England, June 2, 1822, and at the age of twenty-six he emigrated to this country, where for about seventeen years he worked at the trade of stone-cutter. In 1865 he married, forsook his former means of livelihood and started to farm, purchasing the land upon which his son now lives. His wife, who before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Mervin, was born in 1836 in Leicestershire, England, and is the daughter of Thomas and Mary Mervin. She came to Ohio in 1855, and through her marriage became the mother of a daughter Altha and a son George William, the subject of this sketch.

Reared on the home farm, Mr. Brinson received such an education in the district schools as the average country boy obtained in the few winter months that were devoted to schooling because it would be impossible to spend them in the fields. With the first sign of spring the school doors were closed and George William Brinson, like the other boys of his neighborhood, returned to the farm to assist his father till the fields and tempt them to give a greater and greater harvest each year. Difficult though the work may have been at times the success of his later years has fully repaid him for the outlay of exertion, for not only did he learn the methods of cultivating the soil but the equally important lessons of industry, thrift and good management which have enabled him to maintain his farm in such an excellent condition that it is frequently the cause for comment. A number of years ago he added stock raising and feeding to his purely agricultural interests, and in this branch also has been very successful.

On the 12th of April, 1905, Mr. Brinson was married to Miss Mary Hannan, a daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Brennstuhl) Hannan. She was born December 30, 1884, and was the eldest child in a family of six, the others being James, Edward, Agnes, Cassie and Helen. Mr. and Mrs. Brinson have three children, two sons and a daughter: Mildred E., born July 28, 1906; James E., born May 16, 1908; and Glen R. born September 8, 1909. When called upon to exercise his right to vote, Mr. Brinson invariably supports the candidates of the republican party, as he is most in sympathy with its principles. He devotes little time to politics and public matters, however, for the care of his one hundred and seventy-three acres and his business interests leave him but little desire for anything but the enjoyment of a few quiet hours in the bosom of his family.

CHARLES L. WILLOUGHBY.

Charles L. Willoughby is one of the well known men of Richmond township. A prosperous farmer, owning and operating one hundred and seventy-three acres of land, he has also taken an active part in the local public affairs and at the expressed desire of his fellow citizens has held important positions. He was born in Norwich township, January 2, 1867, and is a son of Arthur and Mary J. (Ringle) Willoughby. The father, who was the son of James and Margaret (Patterson) Willoughby, was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1827, and was a farmer throughout his life. As a boy he worked on the home place and then sought employment on the farms of the neighborhood, receiving a small compensation for the services he rendered. When he became desirous of establishing his own home, he came to this county, locating in Norwich township, which was then entirely covered with timber. He was not discouraged, however, but bought his first farm of one hundred acres in the midst of the woods. He built a log cabin, cleared his land, and as the years brought good returns for the labor he expended in the fields he was able to add to the original farm, until at his death he owned three hundred and seventy-five acres in Norwich and Richmond townships. He passed away in August, 1889, but his wife, who was born in 1833, lived until May 21, 1908, when she was buried beside her husband in the cemetery at Attica, Ohio. They were the parents of seven children: Simon A., who departed this life in 1893; Harry E., a resident of Melton, Wisconsin; William M., of Richmond township; Alice May, who died in 1897; Charles L., the subject of this sketch; Clara B., who became the wife of Jasper Barber and lives in Lorain county, near Oberlin; and Walter J., who conducts a physical culture school in Cleveland, Ohio.

Charles L. Willoughby received his first lessons in the fundamental branches of English education in the district schools of his native township. Later he attended the public school in Attica, and after three years continued his training in the high school of that city, remaining there two years. His formal education completed, he went west to Kansas to farm with a brother but stayed only one year, after which he removed to Wisconsin, where for three years he followed the carpenter's trade. Upon the death of his father he returned to his home and assumed

charge of the farm, which has been his care ever since and on which he has prosecuted a line of diversified agriculture which has been very profitable.

Though of necessity the greater part of Mr. Willoughby's time is consumed by the care of his farm, he has evinced a commendable interest in the public affairs of his township. He is at present one of the directors of the county infirmary, and though his duties are sometimes onerous and his responsibilities trying he is fully able to take charge of them. For three years as trustee he assisted in the administration of the affairs of the township and for a term of one year acted as assessor. The local school board benefited by his counsels during three years, for he has ever been deeply interested in the problem of education. In political matters he allies himself with the democratic party, but he gives allegiance to no religious denomination.

ELMER A. STOTTS.

Elmer A. Stotts, one of the successful farmers and prominent business men of Ripley township, whose farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres lies near the little village of Boughtonville, was born in this township, June 1, 1867. He is a son of Abram and Mariette (Boughton) Stotts. The parents were of Ohioan nativity, the mother's birth having occurred in Fitchville township, this county, in the year 1834. Abram Stotts, who was born December 5, 1822, was the son of John Stotts and became one of the prominent men of this locality. Successful in his farming and business operations, he was also a man in whom the people put their confidence, for besides filling many minor offices in his township he was a Huron county commissioner for six years. During a period of more than twice this length of time he was president of the Huron County Insurance Company, guiding its finances with a wise hand. He passed away July 21, 1909, in the eighty-seventh year of his age. Four children were born to Abraham Stotts and his wife: Flora, Della, Clarence and Elmer A.

Elmer A. Stotts, the youngest of this family, has followed largely in his father's footsteps. Reared and educated to life on the farm, of his own volition he has continued in that calling, finding exercise for his many other capabilities in the world of finance or in the service of his fellow citizens. His farm is one of the model places in the vicinity of Boughtonville. On it are seen fine, substantial buildings, strictly conforming to the most advanced ideas as regards construction and maintained in first class repair. His fields, in their excellent condition of tillage, bespeak the industry and good management of their owner. As for his business operations, he is a stockholder in the Boughtonville Telephone Company and for the past eight years has sold farm implements in the village. This business he is closing now, however, for he contemplates moving to Plymouth in the fall of 1909, having already purchased a home in that city.

On the 7th of June, 1888, Mr. Stotts was married to Miss Mildred Kaylor, who was born September 7, 1868, and is a daughter of Samuel and Eliza (Yarnell) Kaylor, of Plymouth, Ohio. This union has been blessed with one child, Blanche, who was born November 9, 1896. Mrs. Stotts is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Delphi, while her husband gives his religious adherence

to the Baptist denomination. Politically he affiliates with the republican party though he is not active in its ranks. He has, however, served the people of the township efficiently for several terms as a member of the school board and for more than ten years has been a trustee of Ripley. Though still a young man, Mr. Stotts has been successful and is highly respected. Accordingly, the best years of his life which lie still before him, should be a golden guerdon of his earnest endeavors in the past.

JOHN H. DONALDSON.

John H. Donaldson is a respected and honored citizen of Greenwich township and has passed most of his life within the bounds of Huron county. He was born near Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, February 24, 1834, a son of Joseph and Sarah G. (Matthews) Donaldson. The father was a West Virginian by birth, and the mother was a native of Ohio. Joseph Donaldson came to this state and took up the time-honored occupation of his ancestors, that of farming, which he followed for the remainder of his life. The year 1819 marked his location in Richland county, but in 1863 he sold out there and settled in Allen county, Indiana, where he died July 27, 1891, his wife following him in November, 1897. In their family were three sons and four daughters: Francina, John H., Mary, William S., Jemima, Levi J. and Emily, all living except Francina and Jemima.

John H. Donaldson was quite liberally educated for his times in the district schools and at Oberlin College. He taught successfully for a number of years in Ohio, Indiana and Missouri, this at a time when it was the custom to "board round." He finally purchased land, farming in summer and teaching in winter, after his marriage, which event occurred March 27, 1860. His wife, Miss Lura P. Barker, was of a prominent pioneer family, her parents being Daniel G. and Eliza (Baker) Barker, of Huron county. The father was originally from New York and the mother from Connecticut. They came to Ohio in 1829, shortly after marriage, and were thrifty and hardworking people. With a debt of one hundred dollars, an ox-team and an ax, they began life in the virgin forest and amassed a competency. Mr. Barker was prominent in public affairs. In 1856 he was commissioned by Governor Robert Lucas, of Ohio, as brigadier general of the First Regiment, Second Brigade, Eleventh Division of the State Militia, and was also connected with other public affairs during life.

There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson, all of whom are occupying honorable and useful positions in society: Clara R. was well educated and is now in the Philippines serving her second three-year period as a teacher; Joseph D. is a traveling salesman; Frank D., a farmer, is serving as clerk of Ripley township; May D. is the wife of Dr. Austin S. McKittrick, a physician of Kenton, Ohio; Grace A. is the wife of Dr. A. C. Matthews, physician of Poughkeepsie, New York. The mother of these children passed away in April, 1897. She was a woman of great strength of character and beloved by all for her wide charity and gracious kindness.

Mr. Donaldson continues to reside on the old homestead, a well tilled farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He is a republican in politics and because of his con-

servative and wise counsel is prominent at all the gatherings of his party. He interests himself in the affairs of his local community and has served as trustee, president of the board of education, etc. A successful farmer, he is prominent in all that pertains to agricultural interests, having been for years secretary of the local branch, No. 707, of the Patrons of Husbandry. He is an active, working member of the Congregational church, is chairman of the board of trustees, and teaches a large adult Bible class in the Sunday school. A broad-minded, public-spirited citizen, always alert and active in every good movement, Mr. Donaldson has won a large place for himself in the affairs of Huron county.

PHILLIP HAWN.

Among the farms of Richmond township, Huron county, Ohio, which have remained in the families of the hardy pioneers that cut them out of the wilderness, is that of one hundred acres on which Phillip Hawn lives today. It was the place of his birth, where on the 17th day of May, 1850, he was born, a son of Benjamin and Hannah (Coder) Hawn. His grandparents on both his father's and his mother's side were natives of Pennsylvania. Phillip Coder, the maternal grandfather, lived to be ninety-four years of age and witnessed the many changes that separated the nineteenth century from the eighteenth as by a gulf. His wife was Elizabeth Coder. Benjamin and Margaret Hawn, the father's parents, came to Ohio in the days of the pioneers and did their share toward preparing the virgin country for the farms which are now its pride.

Benjamin Hawn, the father of Phillip, was reared in Medina county, Ohio, but came to Huron county in 1849, purchasing from Sally Busch and from the government the farm on which his son now lives. It was his home for the remainder of his life, and he was associated with conditions which at the time of his death, in 1898, had entirely passed away and were but memories in the minds of the older settlers, who had been pioneers. When he bought the farm his first concern was to build a log cabin, which should serve him as shelter while he cleared the land of its timber and made the fields ready to receive the seed. As the community of Richmond township grew he became active in its affairs, was made supervisor and was elected to the school board, using his influence to make it possible for the farmers' boys to obtain something more than the meager education they received in early days. In politics he was a democrat and in his religious faith an adherent of the United Brethren church. Mr. Hawn was twice married. Miss Cassie Showalter, who became his first wife, bore him six children: George, John, Thomas, Margaret, Henry and Lavinia. The three eldest sons were soldiers in the Civil war; Margaret became the wife of Jackson Schilts; and Lavinia married Jacob Kissinger. On the occasion of his second marriage Miss Hannah Coder became his wife. Of this union there were four children: Caroline, who married Darwin Brooks; Phillip, the subject of this sketch; Lucy, who became the wife of John Patten; and Benjamin A., who was the youngest of the family.

Phillip Hawn received his preparation for life from the district schools of Richmond township, though it was supplemented in a practical way by work on

the farm which occupied the summer months and the hours that were not devoted to his lessons. Upon leaving school he seriously took up the work of the farm, to which he has given all his time and energy since. Under his father's instruction he learned the first principles of soil culture, but this knowledge has been vastly supplemented by his own practical experience and by the advancement that has been made in farming methods as in other lines of work in the last half century.

On the 13th of April, 1880, Mr. Hawn was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Foster, a daughter of John and Sarah Foster. The father was a shoemaker by trade and came from Pennsylvania, though he was for a number of years a resident of Attica. Mrs. Hawn was the youngest of four children, the others being Addie, Thomas and Charles. The last has passed away. To our subject and his wife were born five children: I. Estella, Alta Florence, Charles H., Frederick F. and Jessie T. The eldest is now the wife of Harry Jocelyn. Mrs. Hawn passed away August 19, 1908, and was buried in Bethel cemetery, Richmond township.

Mr. Hawn does not give his political allegiance to any party but votes for men and measures as he thinks right, and he is not an office seeker, though he is always interested in the welfare of the citizens of the township and gives his influence toward the betterment of the conditions that surround them. He is particularly concerned for the educational advancement of the township and toward that end served as a school director and at present exercises his influence as a member of the school board. He has also acted as superintendent of road construction. He is a collector of rare coins and has in his possession some that were coined in the early days of this republic, a half-dozen that were made in Philadelphia, and others that were struck off at Harrisburg in 1786.

GEORGE G. SEIBEL.

George G. Seibel, a well known and successful agriculturist of Ridgefield township, is the owner of a rich and productive farm of seventy acres. It was on this place that his birth occurred, his natal day being June 20, 1857. His parents, William and Kathryn (Sheth) Seibel, were both natives of Germany. The father crossed the ocean to America in 1848 and when a year had passed he returned to Germany for his parents, Casper and Margaret Seibel, whom he brought to Huron county, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. William Seibel first secured employment as a farm hand and, carefully saving his earnings, was at length enabled to purchase the farm which is now the property of his son, George G. It was nearly all covered with timber but with characteristic energy he set to work and gradually transformed the place into a good farming property. The first home of the family was an old log house and they experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. William Seibel was called to his final rest on the 20th of September, 1861, his demise being the occasion of deep regret to all who knew him. His wife was about twenty years of age when she came to this county with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Sheth. She long survived her husband, passing away on the 20th of May,

1907. Their family numbered four children, as follows: Minnie, who is deceased; George G., of this review; Lettie, the deceased wife of Charles Leiber; and William.

George G. Seibel obtained his education in the district schools and has always continued to reside on the farm where his birth occurred. Through the assistance which he rendered his father he early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and this occupation has claimed his time and energies throughout his entire business career. As before stated, his place comprises seventy acres of valuable and well improved land in Ridgefield township and the success which has attended his labors as an agriculturist is the outcome of clear judgment, close application and excellent business ability.

On the 11th of October, 1888, Mr. Seibel was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Loey, who was born in Germany, December 4, 1861, her parents being Philip and Mollie Loey, of Lyme township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Seibel have been born five children, namely: Rosie; Elmer; Walter; and Edna and Carl, who are deceased.

Mr. Seibel has served as a member of the school board for about twenty years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Evangelical church, of which he is serving as a trustee. Well known in the county where he has always resided, he has a wide acquaintance here and has won uniform trust and good will by reason of a life which in all of its phases has been straightforward and honorable.

FRED JARRETT.

Fred Jarrett, successfully carrying on agricultural pursuits on his farm of one hundred and four acres in Bronson township, was born in Fitchville, Huron county, Ohio, on the 11th of April, 1876, his parents being George and Emma (Jenkins) Jarrett. The father, whose birth occurred in 1838, is a son of John Jarrett, who was of English descent. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Thomas Jenkins, who was likewise of English lineage, lived to attain the remarkable age of one hundred and one and a half years.

As above stated, Fred Jarrett is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and four acres in Bronson township, to the cultivation of which he devotes his time and energies, annually gathering rich harvests which find a ready sale on the market.

On the 25th of December, 1901, Mr. Jarrett was united in marriage to Miss Clara Isabella Park, whose birth occurred October 7, 1876, her parents being James and Mary Ann (McPherson) Park. Her paternal grandfather was Joseph Park. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett have been born two children: one whose birth occurred April 6, 1903, and who passed away in infancy; and James McPherson, who first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 19th of March, 1905.

Mr. Jarrett gives political allegiance to the republican party and at one time was elected justice of the peace but declined the office, as he has always preferred to confine his attention to his private affairs. He has, however, done effective ser-

vice as a member of the school board. A valued and helpful member of the Presbyterian church, he has acted as president of the church society and also as superintendent of the Sunday school. He has passed through all the chairs in the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and is recognized throughout the community as a most enterprising, progressive and prosperous citizen. In this county, where he has always resided, he is most widely and favorably known, the circle of his friends being almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

JOSEPH B. STOCKMASTER.

Some men seem able to succeed in the battle of life without the advantages given by a thorough educational training, for they make the most of every opportunity and never neglect any duty that devolves upon them. That this is true is proven in the careers of Joseph B. Stockmaster, of Norwich township, Huron county, and his father, the late Frank Stockmaster, Jr., both of whom received but few educational advantages but were able to make a comfortable living notwithstanding. Joseph B. Stockmaster was born on the farm he now occupies, which lies in both Norwich and Sherman townships and was the homestead of his parents, Frank and Catherine (Hill) Stockmaster. His grandfather, Frank Stockmaster, Sr., was one of the very early settlers of Huron county. His son, Frank Stockmaster, Jr., was born in America, but his wife was a native of Germany, and Joseph B. Stockmaster without doubt inherits from her side of the family some of the excellent German characteristics which make sons of the fatherland such desirable citizens. Frank Stockmaster, Jr., was a farmer in Norwich township all his life. At the age of ten years he was forced to leave school for the couple of months during the winter, which constituted his opportunity for securing an education, and to take up the burden of a struggle for existence. In his family were three children: Elizabeth, the deceased wife of Peter DeMeyer; Emma, who married Jacob Fritz; and Joseph B.

When he was only sixteen years of age, Joseph B. Stockmaster left school in order to give all his time to his father's interests. A year later the father died and the young man assumed the management of the farm and continued to operate it for his mother until her demise, when he bought the interests of his sisters and now owns one hundred and ten acres, fifty of which are in Norwich township and sixty in Sherman township. He has been improving this property until he now has one of the best farms in the locality.

On November 23, 1897, Mr. Stockmaster married Miss Amelia Bauman, a daughter of Anson and Rosa (Meyers) Bauman, natives of Germany and America, respectively. Although for years residents of Huron county, where they were engaged in farming, Mr. and Mrs. Bauman died in Havana. Their children were: Joseph; Louis; Odella, the deceased wife of Jacob Hay; and Mrs. Stockmaster. The latter has borne her husband two children: Celia, born October 12, 1898; and Ralph, born May 5, 1904.

Mr. Stockmaster is now serving as road supervisor, having been elected to that office on the republican ticket. He belongs to the Chicago Lodge, K. O. T. M.,

and in religious faith the family are Catholics. He is one of the best and most thoroughly modern farmers of his locality and his methods are followed by many who realize the worth of his example.

SETH H. TODD.

Seth H. Todd, respected and esteemed as one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of Huron county and as a representative of one of its pioneer families, was born in Wakeman township, November 22, 1833, his parents being Isaac and Fannie (Booth) Todd. The father came to Ohio from Connecticut with his brother, Woodward Todd, and made arrangements for the family to come later or about 1828. The grandfather of our subject was Moses Todd, who originally located in Wakeman township, since which time the Todds have been prominent here, their labors contributing in substantial measure to the growth and development of the community. Isaac Todd was a farmer and the tract of land which he owned was originally all covered with timber, not even a road being cut through. The cabin home was built of logs cut from the ground whereon the house was later built. As the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings, Mr. Todd acquired adjoining land until he had over two hundred acres and he was numbered among the self-made men of the county, for he started out in life empty-handed and won his property through his own diligence and perseverance. In these early days ready cash was very hard to obtain and when Mr. Todd desired to be married he did not have a sum of money sufficient to enable him to purchase a license so according to the customs of the times the anticipated marriage was publicly announced from the pulpit on services held in the log house for two Sundays preceding the event—and thus the cost of a license was avoided. The wedding took place in due time and happiness and prosperity followed, notwithstanding the fact that during the first eighteen months after his marriage, he only had fifty cents in money. The labor at that time brought only about twenty-five cents per day and wages were payable in such products as the employer happened to have.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Todd were born three sons and two daughters: Sarah B., deceased; Seth H.; Mary A.; Charles M., who has also passed away; and Millard I. Charles was a soldier of the Civil war and died in a hospital at Columbus, Tennessee. The father died at the advanced age of eighty-four years and was laid to rest in Wakeman cemetery. His wife was also interred by his side when she had reached the age of eighty-four years. She was a most hospitable lady, kind and charitable to all and is yet lovingly remembered by many who knew her. Mr. Todd was an ardent abolitionist in antebellum days and was instrumental in assisting many a poor slave on his way to freedom in the north.

Seth H. Todd spent his boyhood upon the home farm and assisted in the usual work necessitated by the care of the stock and the cultivation of the fields. His early education was acquired in the public schools of Wakeman township and he spent three terms at Oberlin College. Subsequently he engaged in teaching school for five terms and was regarded as a very successful instructor. In

1857, he went to Kansas and assisted in the suppression of the border ruffians, experiencing some exciting times when the contest between the advocates of freedom and slavery were at their height. He remained in Kansas for eighteen months and pre-empted a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, after which he returned to Ohio and has remained continuously in this state. His land in Kansas was located near Topeka and after a time he sold the property. Two years ago, he visited the state and land that comprised his former claim is now worth one hundred dollars per acre.

On the 20th of March, 1860, Mr. Todd was married to Miss Martha E. Strong, a daughter of Cyrus and Susan (Curtis) Strong, who came from Woodbury, Connecticut, to Ohio about the time of the arrival of the Todd family in this state. The father was a farmer by occupation and a man of influence in the community, highly regarded for his sterling qualities. Both he and his wife died a number of years ago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Todd have been born seven children: Alva, now the wife of James Burhands; Jennie, who became the wife of the Rev. George Laird and died in July, 1895; Charles A., of Wakeman; Albert S., also of Wakeman; Sarah A., now the wife of Charles Bartholomew, of Chicago; Mabel E.; and Sarah Grace, now Mrs. Bruce Spears, who is in the government employ in Alaska.

Mr. Todd has always been a farmer, conducting his labors along progressive and scientific lines. He has made a careful study of soils and the rotation of crops so that he annually gathers good harvests and he has also been a successful breeder of hogs, "Todd's Chester White hogs" becoming famous throughout the United States. Those which he exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, carried away champion prizes, amounting to twenty-three hundred and seventy dollars, received on twenty-three head of hogs. He became recognized throughout the entire country as a foremost breeder of Chester Whites. He was also a breeder of Shropshire graded sheep and at the International Fat Stock Exhibit held in Chicago in 1907, he won the grand champion prize for the best car of fifty lambs, establishing his record as the champion sheep man of America. His idea has always been to have the best of anything he handles and his success proclaims the wisdom of this course. The total amount of his cash premiums taken at different stock exhibits amounts to over twenty-six thousand dollars. For fifteen years Mr. Todd was active in farmers' institute work and was a popular lecturer. He has lectured in every county in Ohio at least twice and in some of them eight times and he has also done institute work in Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan and spent one entire winter in that way in the state of Maryland. His services were in demand everywhere, and his lectures were only limited by his inability to be in two places at one time. It is said that at one time Mr. Todd was the most widely known man in the United States, this being due to his stock exhibits at all of the best state fairs in the country, to his institute work and his stock sales which were held in every state in the Union. He is a charter member of Wakeman Grange, No. 1399, Patrons of Industry, has been very active in this work and for a year was a lecturer for the organization. He has done everything in his power to promote agricultural and live stock interests and his efforts have given him prominence among the live stock men of the entire country. Mr. Todd was

also active in the organization of the Wakeman Banking Company, in 1897 became its first president and has served in that capacity continuously since. This is a reliable banking enterprise managed along safe and conservative lines and capitalized for twenty-five thousand dollars. It has proven of great benefit to the business community of Wakeman.

Mr. Todd and his family are members of the Congregational church, with which he united when fourteen years of age, since which time he has been active in church and Sunday school work and most generous in support thereof. He was superintendent of the Sunday school for thirty-two years and for forty-eight years, has been a trustee of the church. In his political views, he was an abolitionist in the early days and then joined the republican party on its organization to prevent the further extension of slavery. For a few years he joined the prohibition ranks, being an intense temperance advocate but is now again giving his support to the republican party. He has been active in public matters and has frequently done some campaign speaking and usually represents his township in the different party conventions. He is also in favor of public improvements and gives his voice and his influence to the betterment of general conditions. In 1897, he and his wife left the farm and removed to the village of Wakeman, where they have since resided. At that time Mr. Todd was the owner of over four hundred acres of fine farming land, all well improved and under a high state of cultivation. Since then he has sold to his sons a part of the land, yet holds a goodly share himself. His acres are all well tiled and no farm of this section of the state is more productive, his crops being always the best and largest in the neighborhood. In all of his undertakings, he has been very successful and has acquired much more than a competency. His sons too, are prosperous and are well known for their sheep raising interests, feeding for the New York markets to which they send choice dressed lambs.

WILLIAM B. McCLAFLIN.

William B. McClafin, a well-to-do farmer of New London township, Huron county, Ohio, and prominent in local affairs, was born on the 25th of March, 1847, in Royalton township, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, a son of Timothy P. and Miranda (Briggs) McClafin. As children both father and mother came with their respective parents from Vermont when Royalton township was a dense forest and assisted in clearing the land and making it one of the most fertile sections of the state of Ohio. Timothy McClafin followed the life of a farmer in Royalton township for a time and then in Branch county, Michigan, to which he took his family in 1861. After several years of successful farming there he brought them back to Clarksfield township, Huron county, where he lived and worked for about ten years, later returning to Eaton county, Michigan, which was his home until his death, in March, 1890. His widow survived until December, 1907, when she died at the age of eighty-seven years.

William B. McClafin was reared at home on the farm and received his education in the public schools of the district. He contemplated continuing his train-

ing for life at higher institutions of learning, when the Civil war broke out and interfered with his plans. In April, 1863, he enlisted at Coldwater, Michigan, as a member of Company B, Forty-fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which regiment was to have been recruited for sharp-shooter service but at the time of equipment it was found to be impossible to fit them out for this field of work and they were mustered into the regular infantry. Attached to the Army of the Cumberland, the regiment took part in all the battles that fell to the share of that active army and during the Atlanta campaign was practically under fire for one hundred days. Mr. McClafin said that at any hour of the day or night might he heard the crack of musketry or the boom of cannon, and yet he escaped all injury, was never taken prisoner, though he but narrowly escaped capture on several occasions and saw but little of the hospital. He served as a private and was mustered out at Camp Irwin, Texas, in December, 1865. Upon leaving the army, Mr. McClafin returned to Brighton, Lorain county, Ohio, whither his family had moved during the war and there he engaged in farming with his father. In the fall of 1866 he entered Oberlin College and the following year went to Wisconsin to teach school. The schoolhouse which he occupied was one of the old log buildings of that state and its pupils were mostly large boys and girls of unruly disposition. Indeed they had acquired the reputation of being able to put every teacher who came to them out of the school. All unknowing of this state of affairs, Mr. McClafin entered upon his work and experienced no difficulty, much to the surprise of the neighborhood and to the gratification of the school board, who tried to persuade him to remain another year. He declined the appointment, however, and returned to Ohio to assist his father on the farm. After his marriage, in 1868, he removed to Brighton, where he engaged in agriculture and ten years later went to Clarksfield township, Huron county, which was his home until the fall of 1893, when he removed to Oberlin that he might educate his children at the college there. In 1902, he went to Spencer, Ohio, Mrs. McClafin having died during their residence in Oberlin, and he farmed his own land for five years. In 1907 he sold his farm and went to California on a pleasure trip, traveling through the greater part of the country in the west and southwest. The winter of 1907-8 he spent in Florida and on his return to Ohio bought the land in New London on which he and his two sons, Hugh M. and Elmer P., now live. The farm embraces one hundred and thirteen acres, on which Mr. McClafin conducts general farming. He has also engaged in stock raising and in dairying, sometimes milking as many as thirty cows. In all branches of his business he has been very successful.

On the 5th of July, 1868, Mr. McClafin was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Mosher, a daughter of Hugh and Hester (Smith) Mosher, of Brighton, Lorain county. During the Civil war Mr. Mosher was a fifer in the Forty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was known as the "Yankee Fifer," and was a celebrated character, immortalized in war songs and traditions. He pursued farming and was a man of strong character, who exercised a wide influence. He died in August, 1891, his widow surviving him four years. Mr. and Mrs. McClafin are the parents of nine children: Orin is married and lives in Medina county, Ohio; Benjamin W. is also married and lives in Clarksfield township; Ernest E. resides in Huntington, Ohio; Lillian is now Mrs. Charles Cook, of New London; Lottie

married Winfield McConnell, of Wellington, Lorain county; Hugh M. and Elmer P. are at home with their father; and two others, Walter and Maggie, died in infancy. Mrs. McClaffin died in Oberlin, May 29, 1894.

Mr. McClaffin affiliates with the republican party and has always been prominent in local politics, frequently being a delegate to various conventions. For a long period he served the people as trustee of the township and for fourteen years filled the position of road supervisor. On the township board of education he took an active interest in promoting the welfare of the schools. He is a charter member of J. C. Ronk Post, No. 298, G. A. R., of which he was post commander for a number of years and has frequently been a delegate to state and national encampments. In religious matters he gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal church and has always played an important part in the work of this denomination, having been for a considerable period a class leader and the superintendent of the Sunday school. In short he is a man possessed of a great deal of public spirit, who stands high in his community because of his principles and the integrity of his life. His sons, too, are fine young men who give fair promise of active and useful lives.

JOHN M. VAUGHN.

John M. Vaughn has well earned the proud American title of a self-made man. Necessity forced him to start out in life for himself at a very early age and he has since been dependent upon his own resources. For about forty years he has been connected with the building interests of Norwalk and in this connection has gained the reputation of being one of the best contractors in the locality, many of the important buildings of this city and the surrounding towns standing as monuments to his ability.

Mr. Vaughn was born on the 8th of January, 1848, in Steuben county, Indiana, at a time when much of that district was still wild and uncultivated. He is the youngest in a family of six sons and three daughters born to Lewis B. and Katharine (Smith) Vaughn. The parents came from Genesee county, New York, to Steuben county, Indiana, about the year 1846, where the father engaged in the occupation of farming. The five brothers of our subject all enlisted in the Civil war and practically all remained in active service throughout the period of hostilities. Also six cousins, the sons of Loran Vaughn, entered for service and continued until the close of the war, most of them receiving serious wounds although none met death on the battlefield. One died, however, soon after returning home.

John M. Vaughn was left motherless at the age of five years and from that time on he was practically without a home until his marriage. He drifted about from one place to another, living with different people, until sixteen years of age, when he crossed the threshold of the business world in the capacity of farm hand. He was thus engaged for three years, when he came to Norwalk and learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade. He worked as a journeymen for two years and then, when twenty-two years old, engaged in business on his own account. Although little more than a boy in years, he nevertheless gained almost immediate

success and is today one of the most prosperous and well known contractors of the community. Many of the most prominent and expensive structures in and around Norwalk were constructed by Mr. Vaughn and are the visible evidence of his superior ability and skill. The first large contract which came to him was the erection of the large Presbyterian church at McMinnville, Tennessee, which he constructed when only twenty-four years of age. He was awarded the contract for the Norwalk Opera House at a cost of five thousand dollars, and within ninety days it was completed and had offered its first performance. He erected many of the beautiful homes in this city, among them being the residence of Drs. Simmons, Dr. Merritt, Ex-Mayor Anderson, Dr. Billmyer, Dr. Goodsel, George Cline, Charles Bostwick, Frank Roth, Mrs. Roth, the Altaffar residence, the Pearl home, the Dowd residence, St. Mary's parsonage, The Prentice, the Keiser, the Nichols, Aldeman, Snyder and Cook residences, remodeled the Harley home and also Dr. Hawley's residence, and a great number of homes throughout the surrounding country. He built the Huron County Infirmary Hospital and remodeled the Huron County court house and the old St. Charles—now the Avalon—the leading hotel of Norwalk. His own home is situated a mile and a half south of the court-house on Norwood avenue and, although outside of the corporation limits, has all of the conveniences and accessories of the up-to-date city home and is one of the most comfortable and conveniently arranged houses of Norwalk. It is located on the old Rogers homestead, which property has been in his wife's family for nearly fifty years.

In 1872 Mr. Vaughn laid the foundation for a happy home life in his marriage to Emma J. Rogers, who was born in Huron county in April, 1855. Their home has been blessed with two daughters, Edna L. and Eva L., twins, born in 1873, the latter being now the wife of Elbin Vaughn of Toledo. The children received their education in the Norwalk schools and also pursued a very thorough course in music there, having been extremely well trained in this art. They have each taught music and are proficient on the piano, the violin and many other instruments. Mrs. Vaughn is the daughter of S. J. and Fanny M. (Wilson) Rogers, who were numbered among the early pioneer settlers of Huron county. She is a descendant of Martin Kellogg, who passed away at the age of one hundred and five years. She and her husband are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, while fraternally Mr. Vaughn holds membership with the Tribe of Ben Hur.

The Vaughn family have all been republicans, a fact of which Mr. Vaughn is very proud, inasmuch as he is himself a very staunch and loyal supporter of that party. He is entitled to wear the G. A. R. button inasmuch as he enlisted three different times in the union army at the time of the Civil war, although he was but a mere lad at the outbreak of hostilities. Although Mr. Vaughn had to depend upon his own efforts entirely for the educational training which he enjoyed, nevertheless he has always remained a close student and wide reader. A close observer, quick to recognize and appreciate the lesson which comes with each new experience in life, he gained in the school of experience a thorough practical knowledge that has been of the utmost value to him in his business career. A man who looks well into the future before laying his plans, he possesses a resolute and determined spirit that carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of honest labor, while his honorable business methods and his true personal worth have

gained for him the respect, confidence and good will of the entire community. He is one of the finest mechanics in the state of Ohio and his efforts along contracting lines have not only brought to himself gratifying success but have been of great assistance in the substantial growth and upbuilding of Huron county.

JAMES S. EVANS.

The farming interests of Ridgefield township, Huron county, find a worthy representative in James S. Evans, whose birth occurred in London, England, on the 14th of December, 1848. He is a son of Thomas and Sophia (Smith) Evans, also natives of England, who came to the United States in 1849, landing at Sandusky on the 12th of August. For a period of one year, they resided at Hunts Corners, Ohio, and then the father went to California, where he conducted a general store at Eldorado and also engaged in mining for some time. He returned home in 1865 and in 1870 removed to Wood county, Ohio. His death occurred in 1879, when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-five years, while his wife passed away in 1886, at the age of eighty years. In their family were six children, namely: Thomas, residing at Danville, Illinois; Mary Ann, the wife of Hiram Latham, a resident of Bellevue; Elizabeth, the wife of Philip Schuyler, residing in this county; Sarah, the deceased wife of Joseph Setterly; William, who lives at Hunts Corners; and James S., of this review.

Coming to Ohio when but one year of age, James S. Evans has therefore passed almost his entire life in this state. He acquired his education in the common schools of the district and the period of his boyhood and youth was divided between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the tasks assigned him by parental authority. Upon attaining his majority, he was married in Wood county, Ohio, to Miss Nancy L. Neiblong and resided in that county for about six years, during which period he worked for his mother-in-law. In 1877, he removed to Toledo, Ohio, where he engaged in the teaming business for about one year, after which considerable time was spent in moving about from one place to another. Subsequently he located upon his present farm and has since continued to devote his time and attention to its further improvement. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and year by year has carried on the work of the farm until it has become a very desirable property, from which he annually gathers rich crops that bring to him a good financial return.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Evans was born one child, Lillian, now the wife of William Heyman, of Hunts Corners. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: Clifford, Clarence, Willard, Eva and Mary. On the 21st of March, 1889, Mr. Evans was again married, his second union being with Miss Sarah James, the widow of Edward James. Mrs. Evans is an old settler of Ridgefield township, having resided in her present home since 1853. She is a daughter of Robert and Sarah (Mann) White, both natives of England, who spent their entire lives in that country. Their family consisted of twelve children, of whom

Robert, Mary Ann, Thomas, Mrs. Evans and William John grew to maturity, the others passing away in infancy.

Politically Mr. Evans gives his allegiance to the democratic party and served for two years as township constable and likewise as road supervisor. He is recognized as a violinist of considerably ability and for the past thirty-five years his services as such have been in great demand for parties and various social gatherings. He is known extensively throughout the county and is held in high regard and esteem by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

JOHN WESLEY HOLTZ.

John Wesley Holtz, one of the well-to-do and enterprising farmers of Richmond township, Huron county, Ohio, was born in that township, March 5, 1851, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth Holtz. The father was born in Pennsylvania, but the mother was a native of Richland county, Ohio, though of German descent, her grandfather having come from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania. Jacob Holtz was a farmer during the whole of his life. The first land he bought consisted of fifty acres and was purchased for seven dollars per acres, for it was heavily timbered and had to be cleared before it was cultivable. After building a log house and barn Mr. Holtz began to cut down the trees and with the rude farm implements of those days, make the soil fit to receive the seed. It repaid well the labor that was put upon it and made possible the purchase of more land, which from time to time, Mr. Holtz procured until at his death he was possessed of one hundred and fifty-eight acres. Six children were born to him and his wife: William, deceased; George Washington and John Wesley, who were twins; Sarah, deceased, who was the wife of George Elston; Simon, deceased; and Jennie, who married Elmer Lyons.

John Wesley Holtz has always followed farming from his youngest days, for even during the period when he attended the little district schools his vacations and such time as was not required for the preparation of lessons, were devoted to performing the chores about the house or participating in the heavier work outdoors. For about ten years he worked for different farmers by the month and then purchased a farm in Richmond township. Here has always been his home though he has occupied several farms at different times, buying, selling or trading wherever he thought it was to his advantage to do so. The place on which he is living today was known as the old Henry Dunston farm and was well improved when he located thereon. It is rich and arable and well supports the general farming which he pursues.

On the 4th of November, 1880, Mr. Holtz was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Frederick, a daughter of Henry and Mary Elizabeth Frederick. The mother died in July, 1909, in her eighty-first year, and was buried on the fifty-ninth anniversary of her wedding. She had four children: James; Frank August; Mary E., now Mrs. Holtz; and Ella, who is the wife of Frank Hough. Mr. and Mrs. Holtz have five children: Nellie, Fred, Bessie, Erma, Irene and Eulalie.

Nellie has married Charles Keesey and they have two children: Marion and Harold.

Mr. Holtz and his family are members of the United Brethren church and in their daily life try to uphold its teachings. Politically his sympathies are with the democratic party, though he is not active either in its ranks or in the public life of his township. He has, however, served for one term as road supervisor and conducted his administration creditably. A good farmer, hard working prosperous, he is also a good business man, making the most of the opportunities that are put within his grasp.

ED. A. EVANS.

Ed A. Evans, the present editor of the Chicago Times, is a native of Ohio, born in Licking county, and is a son of William D. and Amanda (Bell) Evans. His grandfather, Joseph Evans, was a native of Wales and was the first of the family to come to America, locating in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and later removing to Licking county, Ohio. William D. Evans, the father of our subject, has engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout life and is still residing upon his farm in Licking county. In his family are the following children: Ed. A., of this review; Cora, the wife of Albert Slater, who is postmaster and also conducts a general store at St. Louisville, Ohio, and by whom she has one son, Edward F.; and Charles, express messenger at Newark, Ohio, who married Jennie Holmes and has two children, Holmes and Elizabeth.

Ed A. Evans began his education in the district schools of Licking county and later attended the Hanover high school, after which he was a student at Pataskala, Ohio, for a time. He next entered a private normal school and on finishing his course there began teaching. After four years' experience as a teacher, he entered the University of Michigan and for some time pursued a special course at that institution, although he did not graduate. In 1887, he became identified with the district schools of Licking county as teacher and, his ability soon being generally recognized, he was called to St. Louisville four years later to organize a high school at that place of which he became superintendent. He had the honor of graduating the first class from that institution, which, under him, developed into a high grade school. Later he was principal of the high school at Pataskala for two years and afterward continued as superintendant for four years, resigning at the end of that time to accept the offer made him by the board of directors of Chicago, Ohio. The educator of today must of necessity be a man of scholarly attainments who has been carefully trained for his work. In addition to this, in order to succeed, he must be a man of sympathetic manner, possessing infinite tact and patience and being a good judge of nature. Such a man is Mr. Evans, who for the past eight years has filled the responsible position of superintendent of the schools of Chicago, and during that time has brought the standard of excellence in them to its present high grade. He is a member of the Central and Eastern Ohio Teachers Association, holds membership in the Ohio Teachers Reading Circle, is secretary of the Ohio State Teachers Association

and is a member of the Northwestern Ohio Teachers Association. He has been county examiner for three years, served as a member of the executive committee and was president of the county teachers institute. Perhaps no man has done more in his locality to bring about efficiency and thoroughness in school work. His methods are practical and have been adapted by many of his fellow teachers. In 1900, Mr. Evans was granted a life certificate by the board of examiners of Ohio, but will resign from his present position as soon as he can be replaced, for on the 16th of October, 1909, he purchased the Chicago Times from L. E. Simmons, and will now devote his time and attention to the conduct of that newspaper. It is with considerable regret that the board of education gave up the services of Mr. Evans, who has been a most important factor in the school development of this section of the state.

On the 25th of December, 1895, Mr. Evans was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Locke, a daughter of Albert and Isabel Locke. Her mother died in May, 1897, and her father, who is a native of Ohio, now makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Evans. Mrs. Locke was born in Licking county, her parents having come to this state from New York. She was the mother of two children, namely: Mary, the wife of Walter Drake, who is an undertaker and furniture dealer of Monroeville, Ohio, by whom she has one son, John F.; and Sarah, now the wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Evans are the parents of the following named: Isabel, born in November, 1896; Ruppert P., in January, 1898; Edward A., in 1899; Ellen M., in October, 1901; Samuel S., in July, 1903; and Sarah Louise, in August, 1907.

Faternally, Mr. Evans is a member of Chicago Lodge, K. P., and of the Pataskala Lodge, No. 404, A. F. & A. M. In politics, he is a democrat but has never had time to devote to public affairs outside of his profession. He and his wife belong to the Methodist church and stand very high in the estimation of their associates there, as they do in the community at large where they have countless friends.

OTTO A. BETSCHMANN.

Otto A. Betschmann, residing upon a farm of forty acres in Norwalk township, Huron county, is successfully engaged, in connection with his general agricultural pursuits, in the conduct of a profitable dairy business. He was born on this farm, November 27, 1874, a son of Nicholas and Margaret (Zimmerman) Betschmann, the former a native of Switzerland, his birth there occurring in 1822. When about twenty-five years of age, he came to the United States and located in the German settlement in Peru township, where he operated a blacksmith shop in connection with general farming. He later engaged in the blacksmith trade on the farm upon which our subject now resides, where he continued to live until his demise in 1886. He was twice married, his first union being with Miss Reinick, and in their family were five children, namely: Frank; John; Robert; Rose, deceased; and Francis. He was later united in marriage to Miss Margaret Zimmerman, and unto this union were born four children, as follows:

Otto A., of this review; Julius, born May 24, 1877; George, born May 25, 1880; and Theodore, born February 12, 1882. Julius Betschmann resides at Fremont, Ohio, while the two last named make their home with our subject. Mrs. Nicholas Betschmann was born May 16, 1835, in East Liverpool, Ohio, and still survives, making her home with her son, Otto, having resided upon this farm for over fifty years. She also was twice married, her first union being with Roman Indelkafer, who was the original owner of the farm which is now in the possession of Otto A. Betschmann, of this review. Unto this union were born five children: Mary, Lucy, Julia, Roman and Joseph.

Otto A. Betschmann was reared upon his present farm and acquired his education in the schools of Norwalk township. When not busy with his text books, he assisted in the work of cultivating the fields and early became familiar with the tasks that fall to the lot of the farm lad. The practical experience thus gained proved of the utmost importance to him when, after attaining his majority, he engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He has always followed general farming, bringing his fields under a fine state of cultivation. About twelve years ago, he instituted the East End Dairy, which he has since continued to operate, and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him a high degree of prosperity and success in this undertaking.

Mr. Betschmann and his two brothers, Julius and Theodore, are members of the Eagles Lodge of Norwalk and hold membership in the Catholic church. He has passed his entire life in this community and has become recognized as a public-spirited citizen, while he has gained a wide circle of friends. In his business life, he made good use of his opportunities, has utilized his possibilities to the best advantage, and as the years have passed by, he has gained a place among the substantial representatives of this county.

MICHAEL GIES.

Michael Gies, deceased, possessed many strong and salient characteristics which won him the high regard of all with whom he came in contact and thus his death, which occurred in 1904, was the occasion of deep regret to his many friends. He was born August 15, 1830, and reared under the parental roof. After attaining man's estate he started out in the business world as an agriculturist and eventually became the owner of the farm which is still in possession of his family, a tract comprising one hundred and seven acres, conveniently located within three miles of Norwalk. He also owned an additional tract of ninety-nine acres, which he sold prior to his demise and divided the proceeds among his children. For many years Mr. Gies was engaged in farming and each year, owing to the care and labor which he gave to his fields, he gathered good harvests. He also improved his place with good buildings, which were always kept in an excellent state of repair, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1904, he left his family in possession of a valuable farm, which today supplies them with all the

necessaries of life and which had been the home of Mr. Gies since 1863, or for a period of forty-six years.

It was in 1861, that Mr. Gies established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Blandina Remelee, who was born on the 7th of May, 1840. They became the parents of six sons and one daughter: August, Ferdinand, Lawrence, Frank, William, Leo and Mrs. Amelia Shnord. All acquired a good education in the district schools and are now married and have homes of their own.

Mr. Gies gave his political support to the men and measures of democracy, while his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Catholic church. A man of domestic taste, outside of his business duties, he spent his leisure time within the family circle. Of a genial and kindly disposition, he was a friend to all, and thus his death was mourned by many friends but most of all by the immediate members of his household.

RICHARD T. SLATER.

Richard T. Slater is a wide-awake and enterprising farmer, owning and operating a tract of land of fifty acres in Hartland township. His birth occurred in North Fairfield, Huron county, Ohio, on the 17th of August, 1857, his parents being John and Isabelle (Crow) Slater, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Quebec, Canada. The Slaters are of English lineage but have been represented in this country ever since the arrival of the Pilgrims in 1620, one of the ancestors coming over on the Mayflower. John Slater, the father of our subject, was a blacksmith by trade and for many years worked at that occupation in North Fairfield. He was fifty-two years of age when he enlisted as a soldier of the Union army, becoming a member of Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-Third Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years. He was twice captured by the enemy and was incarcerated in Andersonville prison and also at Belle Isle, being eventually exchanged in both cases. His demise occurred in 1887, when he had attained the ripe old age of seventy-seven years, and his remains were interred in the North Fairfield cemetery. His wife, surviving him for more than two decades, was called to her final rest on the 28th of September, 1908, and lies buried at New Buffalo, Michigan.

Richard T. Slater obtained his education in the schools of his native town and was employed at farm work as soon as his age and strength permitted. He was married when about twenty-three years of age and then carried on general agricultural pursuits in Fairfield township for a number of years, while later he spent seven years in Greenwich township, devoting his time and energies to the work of the fields. In 1898, he came to Hartland township, taking up his abode on the farm of fifty acres which has since remained his place of residence. It is a well improved and valuable property and the rich and fertile soil responds to cultivation in bountiful harvests.

On the 30th of May, 1880, Mr. Slater was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Odell, a daughter of William and Rachel (Phillip) Odell, both of whom are natives of this county and now make their home in North Fairfield. Unto Mr. and

Mrs. Slater have been born two children: Burt A., who is married and resides in Laport county, Indiana; and Blanche B., the wife of Horace Davis, who follows farming in Hartland township.

Mr. Slater has always supported the men and measures of the democracy and is now serving for the fourth year as township trustee, while he has also been a member of the school board, maintaining a deep interests in the progress of public education. His cooperation and aid can always be counted upon to further any movement instituted to advance the general welfare and he is widely recognized as a most progressive, loyal and public-spirited citizen. Both he and his wife are highly esteemed throughout the county in which they have spent their entire lives, having won the kindly regard and friendship of all with whom they have been associated.

GEORGE W. PARKER.

George W. Parker, who as proprietor of the Parker Greenhouse is conducting a profitable and successful retail and wholesale business, was born on the 31st of October, 1834, in Bronson township, a son of Rial and Achsah (Snow) Parker, both natives of Cayuga county, New York. The father, who comes of English lineage, was born in 1800, a son of George and Phoebe (Russell) Parker, while the mother, whose birth occurred in 1802, was a daughter of Asher Snow. In their family were three children: Phoebe, Asher and George.

The boyhood and youthful days of George W. Parker were spent under the parental roof and he is indebted to the common school system for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. After laying aside his text books and starting out in life on his own account, he was identified with various lines of business, being engaged at different times as a druggist, grocer, brick and tile manufacturer and a farmer. For a number of years, however, he has conducted a growing and successful florist's business, his greenhouse, which has been in existence for sixteen years, having been one of the first to be established in Huron county. He has met with most gratifying success in both his retail and wholesale departments and enjoys a constantly increasing patronage which has already reached gratifying proportions. The size, color and variety of his product are such as to insure a ready sale and good prices on the market and his flowers are in demand not only in Norwalk, but throughout the adjoining territory. He owns about twenty-five acres of land in the city of Norwalk upon which stands his greenhouse, while he also has an attractive and comfortable residence upon this property.

Mr. Walker was united in marriage in 1862 to Miss Harriet M. Beard, who was born in Seneca county in 1840, a daughter of John Beard. Unto this union have been born three children. Achsah, who was born in 1865, is now teaching in the normal school at Greeley, Colorado. Phoebe, who was born in 1872, is the superintendent of a library in Bay City, Michigan. Willard, the youngest of the family, was born in 1875 and is his father's partner in business. He took part in the Spanish-American war and spent two years in the Philippine Islands.

Mr. Parker has figured actively in local political circles, being recognized as a stalwart supporter of the democracy, to the principles of which party he gives loyal support. He was for some time a member of the school board and did all in his power to further the interests of education. His life has been one of continuous activity, each forward step in his business career bringing to him a wider outlook and broader opportunities. He possesses keen business ability and good judgment, and his careful management of his affairs, together with his honorable and upright methods, have been the salient elements in the success which he now enjoys.

JOHN V. BARKER.

John V. Barker, the owner of a well improved and productive farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres in Bronson township, is numbered among the worthy native sons of Huron county, his birth having occurred in that township on the 14th of February, 1877. His parents, John and Phoebe (Morse) Barker, are likewise natives of this county and were born in the years 1844 and 1848 respectively. The father, an honored veteran of the Civil war, served for four years as a member of the Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His family numbers five children, namely: Myrtle, Edgar, John V., Jay and Lucy.

John V. Barker has always made his home on a farm and early became familiar with the various duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. As above stated, he now owns and cultivates a tract of one hundred and twenty-five acres of land in Bronson township and in the conduct of his farming interests has won a commendable measure of success, owing to his untiring and well directed energy and good management. He also operates a cider press which his father built in 1886 and which has been in operation ever since. It was one of the first steam presses in the county.

In 1901, Mr. Barker was joined in wedlock to Miss Frances Coyt, who was born in 1883, a daughter of James and Nellie (Hall) Coyt. Mrs. Barker has two sisters, Grace and Marguerite. The political faith of Mr. Barker accords with the principles and policy of the republican party. His fraternal relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Norwalk, and he is a worthy exemplar of the craft. As he has lived in this county throughout his entire life, he has a wide acquaintance here and his many friends know him as a young man of enterprise and worth.

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History of Huron County

A. J. Baughman

Compiled by
Huron County Chapter
of the
Ohio Genealogical Society
1998

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